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WORLD SOCCER

The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

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RUBEN AYALA Argentina

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WORLD SOCCER
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The best double-act in the business. No, not old-time music hall . . . but soccer. Behind the whiskers and the grey lines are those magnificent Fulham stalwarts Bobby Moore and Alan Mullery, who will be playing in the FA Cup Final at Wembley on May 3. Moore, 34, and Mullery, 33, submitted themselves to an hilarious make-up job by Marella Shearer of London Weekend Television. And for Mullery there was another surprise in store when he was named "Footballer of the Year" by the English Football Writers Association.

YOU just cannot keep Leeds United out of the news. In a season when, unusually, they have failed to last the course in any of the domestic competitions, they have achieved their major aim, a place in the European Cup Final. And nobody can deny that Leeds deserve the honour, not simply for their successes this season but for 10 years of hard endeavour in Europe.

It was unfortunate that another of their fine performances should be marred by a sending off. Gordon McQueen became the ninth Leeds player to be sent off in those 10 years after striking Clares of Barcelona in the second leg of an epic semi-final.

Defending champions

Despite playing with only 10 men, Leeds had enough skill, composure and resolution to come through a gruelling ninety minutes. They can do England proud at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris on May 28 against defending champions Bayern Munich, by no means the force they were 12 months ago.

It would be nice to see Leeds triumph with style and flair. They have the ability, some of the best players in Britain and the determination. McQueen will pay the penalty and miss the club's greatest night . . . but for players like Bremner, Hunter and Giles in particular the occasion will be the one they've been waiting for.

And while Jimmy Armfield has done a grand job at Elland Road, let's not forget Don Revie, the man who moulded the Leeds of today and who sat in the stand in Barcelona obviously overjoyed at seeing his, sorry Leeds, side get through.

Derby County's late run in the Football League championship race was good enough to earn them the title after Everton had looked firm favourites early in April. For Derby it is their second championship in four seasons and a fine achievement for the club and manager Dave Mackay. Everton, meanwhile, had to console themselves with a place in Europe in the UEFA Cup. Pictured on our front cover this month are four Everton players, left to right, Martin Dobson, George Connolly, Dave Clements and Steve Seargeant.

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ERIC BATTY

Players of real quality still lacking in the England squad of today

AFTER the England-West Germany game at Wembley it was held in some quarters that the Germans didn't try. That to my mind is rubbish. They almost certainly didn't like the pitch, and they lacked both the moral courage and the skill to come back once they were behind, but it's inconceivable to me that they didn't try.

What was shown up is the stark fact that the West German game must be in a pretty dire state if this was the best that Helmut Schön could find. Without doubt this was the poorest imitation of a German team that I have ever seen and only the fighting spirit of Berti Vogts and the elegance of Franz Beckenbauer prevented them from getting into even more trouble than they did.

Of course, England deserved to win, but the game had an unreal quality for me. Never at any time did the proceedings reach the level one would expect of a match between England and the World champions. It looked more like a training game in which a club manager was giving trials to local players.

Appeal

The "World champions" tag that the Germans brought with them was a laugh for a start, but it impressed the media, cropped up frequently in match reports and to the man in the street had an understandable appeal. But let there be no mistakes about two things: I didn't think much of the team that won the 1974 World Cup and I class the team that played at Wembley as a rabble.

From the German point of view it is clear that Helmut Schön is trying to do a patchwork job, covering up as best he can for the players that for various reasons have dropped out of international football. This is the only explanation for such comparatively old players being brought in.

Manfred Ritschel, for example, is 28 and got his first cap at Wembley. Erwin Kostedde is the same age and that was his second cap, while Bernd Hölzenbein is a year older. Ritschel proved to be an ineffective fiddler; Kostedde never showed anything and Hölzenbein is clearly not the type of player who can spark things off on his own.

In midfield they had the half-fit Herbert Wimmer who was taken off at the break and I have never thought either Bernd Cullman or Heinz Flohe to be anything more than strong workmen. As a natural consequence the Germans never really threatened the England goal.

Rebound

At the other end Sepp Maier was his usual unreliable self. In the second half he met a shot from Malcolm Macdonald that was hit straight at him—the kind of ball a good English goalkeeper would just swallow up. Maier somehow managed to let the ball rebound off his chest and he was completely at fault when Macdonald headed England's second goal.

With the ball out wide on the by-line, Maier was inexplicably tempted to commit himself totally to the near post. When the ball was crossed to the far post he was left helpless and in my estimation from that kind of angle he should have been positioned half-and-half.

What must be said for the Germans is that they did not play defensively as Portugal did in the previous Wembley game and they remained sporting throughout. This is perhaps what 'threw' those that thought the Germans didn't try. They did not *fight* as English players would have fought had they been in arrears.

RECOGNISING that we are living through a period when the result counts for so much more than the game itself, the general after-match feeling of satisfaction was understandable. But too many people committed themselves to players who I am sure, will subsequently be shown up as not good enough for international football.

Weakness

To judge the quality of the England performance one had to constantly bear in mind the weakness of the opposition. Alan Hudson, for example, drew rave notices for a game that was to my mind unexceptional. Certainly he has skill and that has been a commodity that has been too long absent from England teams. But skill alone is not enough—one must know how, when and where to use it.

Twenty or thirty years ago, almost every First Division club had at least one inside forward with real skills on the ball. But few of them are remembered now because they didn't know where and when to lay the old through pass that was then the end

The England team that beat West Germany. Left to right: Ball, Clemence, Whitworth, Keegan, Todd, Gillard, Bell, Channon, MacDonald, Hudson, Watson.

product of the midfield craftsman. Today, playing in midfield is far more complex and Hudson in my view is not England class.

The same must be said of many other players in the England team. Mick Channon for example, has always had speed and skill but he has also been an individualist. While he was producing solo runs that threatened the enemy goal (and there were few other candidates) his inclusion was acceptable. But now, perhaps as a result of playing in Division Two he seemed to have lost much of his sharpness.

Malcolm Macdonald is an old-time centre forward who would have looked good in the days of Ted Drake. His aggression, speed and determined running are all commendable qualities, but to me he is still only a good club player. Kevin Keegan too has certain qualities which show up well when he plays for Liverpool, but he has not developed in his time as an England player at the rate one would expect.

Hunches

The two new full backs, Steve Whitworth and Ian Gillard, seemed to please everyone including Don Revie. I would never suggest that an England team manager should not be allowed to play his hunches or give an opportunity even to an unknown Third Division player. But I sincerely believe it to be against even the players' interests to overpraise this pair. I personally doubt if Whitworth will ever be capped again and Gillard was beaten too often on the outside by the unimpressive Ritschel to be accepted into the England camp.

This brings me to the most discussed pre-match point, the re-appearance of Alan Ball as England captain. I make no bones about the fact that I have never been impressed with Ball as an international player. But I stand firmly with those who expressed the view that it is wrong to appoint a captain with a disciplinary record like that of Ball.

Colin Todd or Colin Bell would be my choice, but Don Revie is a professional manager who puts results first and this factor alone puts him and I as far apart as the two sides of the Pacific Ocean.

I readily admit to being an old-fashioned idealist and I do not care if England were to go through 100 games and twenty years without winning even one game. To me the game is the thing, it's the beginning and the end, and *how you play* is what really matters.

Revie, like his predecessor, puts results above all else and I doubt for this reason if he will ever produce a team that will be admired by the rest of the World.

Though I would never recommend a return to the days when the International Selection Committee held power, it is a fact that since the team was given over to a strong England manager we have never done anything to justify our *prestigioso* position in the football arena. Even in 1966 the rest of the World just shrugged off England's success, much as they did with the West Germans last year.

It was the Dutch that impressed most in 1974, winning an awful lot of friends and having people say things that really matter, like . . . "that's how *we* should play." Holland and Poland will be remembered for their achievements in the 1974 World Cup and this is where England should be.

Should, but as I have made plain quite often—will not be, until the clubs produce the players of quality and the England manager selects them. That I fear is far in the future.

Physical

We have to get our priorities right. While the clubs concentrate on developing players who already have physical qualities we will never do it. But the pressures at club level are so great that managers and coaches who truly believe, find it very hard to keep their principles and their jobs. Unhappily, there are not enough of them about who really try.

For too long we have told each other that we cannot produce players like Di Stefano and Pele, but we did in another age produce men like Matthews and Finney; Carter and Mannion. And both the Scots and the Irish produced their share too.

This suggests there is now something essentially Latin that is inherent in top quality football but Johan Cruyff is no Latin. He and many other good players have been produced in Holland, and both Gunter Netzer and Franz Beckenbauer have risen from German football which was always closely related to the English game in the past.

We can produce such players, but it will only be done by dedicated men. It is also necessary to bring the best of those we have got into the England team for the younger generation watch games live and on television and are influenced by what they see.

If the truly big stars are elegant and skilful then youngsters will be encouraged to copy them. Unhappily, it is the players who kick and swap punches who get headlines—it is seldom real top quality football that gets analysed on our TV screens. The youngsters today copy the hard-men, believing this to be the way.

Example

One thing that TV could do is to show in full the games played against Belgium and Russia in the 1972 European championship. Let everyone see again what I consider to have been the best example of international football for a decade. This is what we in England should aim at but the cold hard fact is that we are rushing headlong in the wrong direction and the choice of Ball as captain of England simply presses the accelerator a little further down.

Regular readers may wonder why I have not singled out examples of good play from the match and the plain fact is that in this game I didn't see any. The only thing about it that I will remember a month from now is that a poor team beat a bad one 2-0.

One final point. I have already mentioned my dislike for the new England strip and I find myself disturbed by the growing trend to provide pre-match entertainment.

I didn't watch, no more than I watch the opening ceremonies at World Cups. I go to watch the football and in the end, with rising prices putting further pressure on the masses, it will be the quality of the football that brings back crowds or determines that they will watch on TV.

ROB HUGHES

IS HUDSON THE ANSWER TO A PRAYER?

IS ALAN Hudson the catalyst around which England can build a better footballing tomorrow? Extravagant claims on his behalf proved premature in the past, yet his consistency for Stoke City and flamboyant arrival in England's midfield against West Germany are convincing enough suggestions that Hudson has the ability to recover dimensions of vision and surprise which his nation has lacked since Bobby Charlton's day.

Against the Germans, his first full international at 24, Hudson took hold of the match so early, dictated its rhythm so assertively, that his captain Alan Ball and partner Colin Bell, despite their years of experience, were willing supports rather than leaders.

Don Revie relaxes, and talks to the Press, after England's 2-0 victory over West Germany.

They responded not merely to flair, but to his remarkable industry. I logged each and every move Hudson made at Wembley that night: it used a lot of lead and more paper than I had started out with. While facts and figures do nothing for the grace and verve of Hudson's game, they mirror indisputably the effort and accuracy of what may well prove to be the most significant England debut for years.

Hudson contributed to 73 separate moves, over half of which were stimulated by him. He touched the ball no less than 91 times and succeeded in 73.3 per cent of what he attempted. In the World Cup Final, Johan Cruyff's success rate was 79 per cent in the same aspects of taking on opponents, tackling, passing, shooting and running.

Yet Hudson's involvement has to be rationalised. He was attempting so much of an arrogant, risky nature with entirely new colleagues on a new stage—and a sodden pitch more suitable to waders than football boots. But the West Germans, who marked Cruyff so closely in Munich, made the cardinal error of allowing Hudson the freedom of Wembley. He was entitled to excel against opponents who, particularly before half time, allowed him ten yards and more to manoeuvre in style.

And what style! One recalls Tony Waddington, on the day he paid Chelsea £240,000 to transfer the promising but temperamental Kings Road boy to Stoke-on-Trent, speaking of Hudson in the same breath as Alfredo Di Stefano: "Di Stefano is the most complete player I've ever seen," said Waddington. "Alan Hudson, at 22, has all the essentials to match that greatness: he's got perfect physique, stamina and instant control, and his brain ticks over all the time, giving him so many alternatives he rejects

Alan Ball (right) and Alan Hudson after England's victory over West Germany.

as many in one move as some players have in an entire game."

Waddington at that time would brook one single qualification in his prophecy on Hudson's future supremacy . . . "If he really gets down to it." Once transferred from Chelsea, which limited his instincts, and London, which tempted him with too many distractions, Hudson's application was instantly visible; his control eased Stoke from fifth off bottom to championship contenders in a season and a half, and his weight plummeted from 13-stone 12 lbs to under 11-stones.

His first international revolved around him from the start. He clearly wanted the ball, wanted the authority he has at Stoke. Ball in particular and Bell were with him from the whistle, the back four warmed less quickly to his demands to be left to create from the deep, and the forwards were clearly surprised at his ability to spot them taking up positions and deliver the early ball.

Possession

His first two minutes were uncharacteristic, bustling and chasing back to show his determination to get into the game. Yet within the first quarter of an hour we saw in Hudson a man prepared to put his foot on the ball, to play the short, square possession ball and instigate a patient build-up, then suddenly to erupt with runs or passes of ultimate economy, urging players to create width by using the flanks.

From the second quarter hour he had command of the mood and flow of the game, relishing the response he was getting from his alert one-twos, played with the outside of his right boot. After 26 minutes he made the first of England's two goals which exploited the quickly-taken free-kick, standing back a pace and, in the next instant, seeing Bell, the one unmarked forward and clipping the ball 20 yards for him to score.

First-time

The Germans were reluctant to take responsibility for close-marking him, although the substitution of Kremers for Wimmer at half-time did dull Hudson's appetite and deny him room. But that was too late to stop his cheeky confidence and, as late as the 84th minute his was the best and most incisive pass of the match, a ball hit 35 yards which demanded Keegan should run for the far corner flag.

Then, when Keegan turned, there was Hudson at his back, urging a short pass from which the Stoke player tried a shot from 25 yards which was wide.

At the end, Hudson it was who teased the Germans, perhaps a shade too arrogantly, playing keep-ball with Ball. The important extremes of his game were in passing (81% found the man, 60% were first-time balls), tackling (only two of 15 attempts won convincingly), and shooting (three attempts, all outside the area, all wide). Only once was he caught in possession, never did he attempt a header and, so adept at turning away from challengers where others run into them, only once was he fouled.

One 90-minutes hardly means that Hudson has delivered the promise of which Sir Alf Ramsey once said: "There is no limit to what this boy can achieve." Ramsey chose him at 18 for the Mexico World Cup squad, but did not play him.

Freedom

Don Revie, who also had reservations about Hudson's commitment will want to see if, against opponents less generous in allowing Hudson the freedom, the players attitude and ability can fulfil the promise. But, in agreement with Helmut Schon, Revie called Hudson's performance: "the most impressive, confident international debut since Duncan Edwards."

BRIAN GLANVILLE

IF THERE be a favourite book at UEFA's expensive new headquarters on the outskirts of Berne, it must surely be Joseph Haller's CATCH 22. Catch 22, it will be remembered by those who read that inventive book, laid down that if you were mad, you could get out of the Air Force, but that if you wanted to get out of the Air Force, then you couldn't be mad.

When Denmark officially protested against the use in the Spanish international team against them of Roberto Martinez, a proven Argentinian, it began to look as if they had a cast iron case. Bilbao and San Sebastian, those two proud Basque clubs, were at pains to prove that Martinez hadn't the ghost of a qualification to play for Spain, where he had arrived as a fully blown, fully experienced Argenti League player.

They even claimed that his birth certificate was a fake. Martinez scored the winning goal against Denmark in a European Championship match last September in Copenhagen, and was a member of the victorious Spanish team two months later in Glasgow.

When the Danes found out about Martinez through an article in a Spanish magazine, they asked UEFA to investigate. Scotland took it all very coolly. When I spoke to Mr. Willy Allan, their Secretary, he told me that he was sure that if anything were amiss, UEFA would sort it out. How very optimistic of him. UEFA have indeed sorted it out, but in a way which will surely content only the dubious Spaniards.

Their estimable secretary, Herr Hans Bangerter, informed the outraged Danes that their protest was too late. End of story. Why this could not have been done when they originally raised the matter is thoroughly obscure. But not for the first time, UEFA's decision starts a multitude of hares. And not for the first time, they are found pathetically unprepared for an arising situation; unless you regard that iniquitous 48-hour rule as proper preparation.

If a Football League club fields an ineligible player, the Football League handbook lays down that it automatically be mulcted of two points. This may be somewhat rough justice; but at least everybody knows where they stand. In Italy, by contrast, if a match is interfered with by an invasion of the pitch by the crowd or some similar excess, it is usual for the match to be awarded *al tavolo*, as they say, at the table, to the visiting club, by a score of 2-0. Again, people tend to know where they are.

Well, now they know where they are with UEFA, too, you may say; and indeed they do. That 48 hour rule is nothing more than a Cheats' Charter, putting the onus of proof and initiative quite shamefully on the victim rather than the offender. It now appears perfectly clear that the Spaniards did indeed use a quite ineligible player, and highly likely that they had at least some idea at the time of his ineligibility.

That the Danes did not protest immediately, or at least within the requisite 24 hours, was for the very good reason that they didn't know about it. Having found out about it, they asked UEFA to investigate. In future, unless this iniquitous law be changed, any country which has "pulled a fast one" need merely hold its breath and cover its tracks for 24 hours after the match concerned to be sure that all will be well. How shabby.

UEFA should have the guts and the authority to tackle such matters themselves. If they feel, and there is some case for so feeling, that each case must be considered on its own merits, then well enough. There might have been good reason for dis-disqualifying Spain from the competition, for ordering the matches to be replayed, for awarding the points in each case to the "offended" side, i.e. Denmark and Scotland. As it is, Spain romp on merrily into the quarter-finals. Who said that cheats never prosper?

Euphoria

I did not share the general euphoria over England's 2-0 win against a feeble and none too interested West German team at Wembley; but I did share the general disquiet over the appointment as captain of Alan Ball.

Not that Ball had an unsatisfactory game either as player or as captain. Indeed, though his perpetual chatter has been known to disturb some of his club colleagues, he is certainly far better suited to the task than his predecessor, Emlyn Hughes. The morality of the matter is something else.

Some two weeks earlier, Ball had been sent off the field at Derby for remarks made to the referee after he had been cautioned. Whatever the rights and wrongs of that particular occasion, and I submit that a senior international player, worthy to captain club and country, should have sufficient control to avoid such an expulsion, it is not by any means the first time Ball has been sent off; for country as well as club.

Provocateur

In Katowice, when England played Poland in 1973, he got himself quite gratuitously expelled. It was Peters whom that arch provocateur, Cmiekiwiecz, had badly fouled, but Ball came rushing up, grabbed hold of the Pole, and was sent off for his pains. With him went any faint hopes England may have had of saving the game.

Perhaps Revie is looking for another Bremner, an embattled, urgent, imperative player of immense commitment, who will galvanise the rest of the team as Bremner has galvanised both Leeds and Scotland. If the ends justify the means, then certainly it is hard to gainsay the appointment of Bremner to these two captaincies.

But to appoint Ball at that particular moment was, at the very least, a monstrous piece of tactlessness. After his years as the driving manager of a relentless team, Revie has come before us in a new guise;

UEFA SAY PROTEST 'TOO LATE'

as the protagonist of pure, creative football. I do not think his new image, and that of his team, has been helped by his choice of Ball for the captaincy.

Scrapyard

It seems that Under 23 internationals are on their way to the scrapyard; and not a moment before time. I speak as one who saw the first Under 23 match of them all; on a bitter cold day in Bologna, early in 1954, when Young Italy beat Young England, captained by Bill Dodgin junior and including Duncan Edwards, 3-0.

I remember an observer commenting, as both teams sat before the game in the lobby of the hotel, that the Italians looked like men, the English like boys; and that was more or less how the match itself went, though the following year, at Chelsea, England had their revenge, 5-1.

But 23 was always a strangely arbitrary age. The suggestion of Scotland's Willy Allan that it be reduced to 21 makes more sense, given the fact that a 23-year-old today is so often a mature international; yet even here, there is cause to call the delineating arbitrary, for do not people now tend to reach their effective majority at 18?

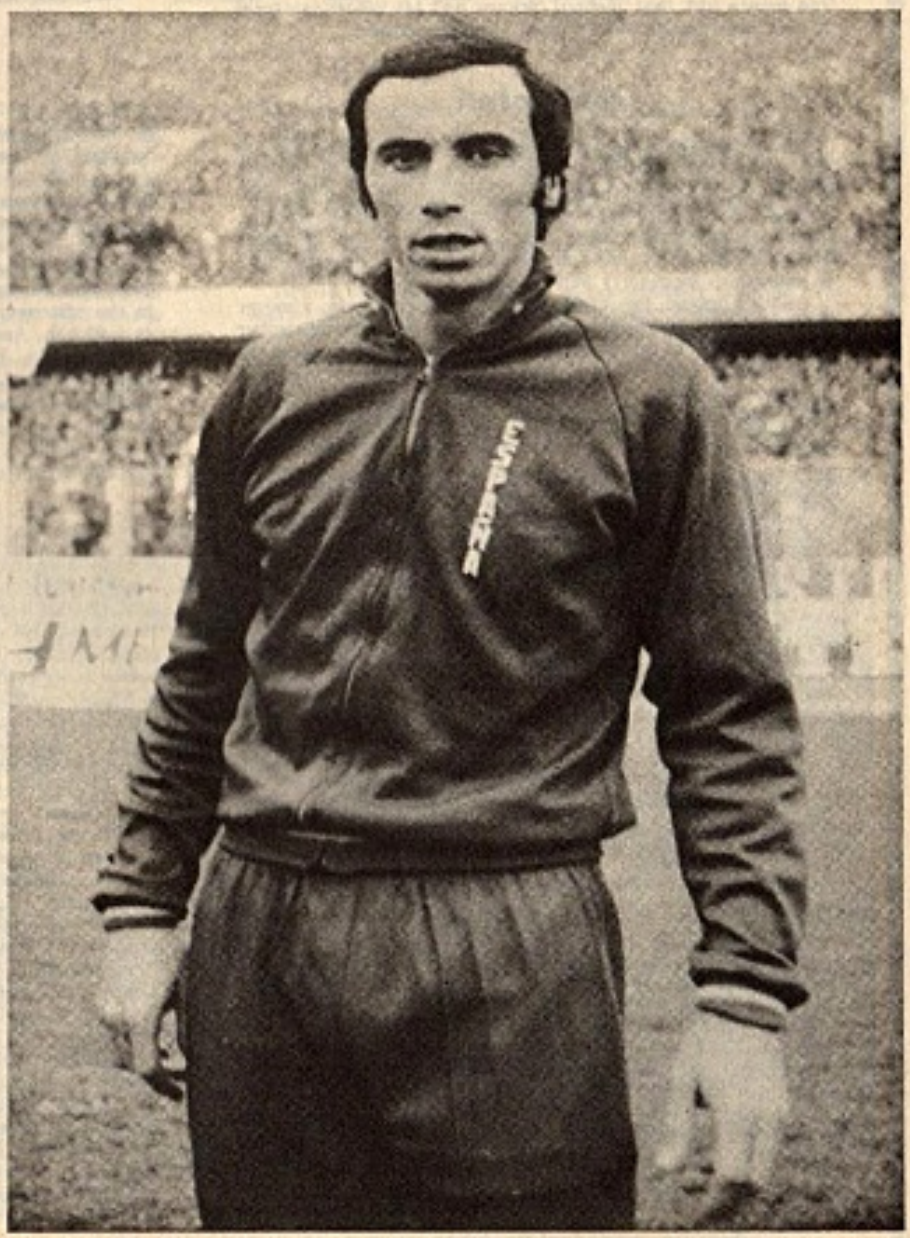
Meanwhile, the mere abolition of the ridiculous European Under 23 tournament, which actually permits two over age players in every team, would be a step in the right and logical direction.

Journalism

Some three years ago, I inveighed in these columns against the fact that the DAILY MAIL had dismissed Brian James, their excellent Football Correspondent, and one who seemed to me to be building an essential bridge between so called quality and so called popular journalism.

Not long afterwards, Brian James became my colleague at the *SUNDAY TIMES*; much valued, much appreciated; and, now that he has returned in some small triumph to the *DAILY MAIL*, much lamented.

Brian, I know, was as happy at the *SUNDAY TIMES* as we were to have him, but the irony of it all will not be lost on him, any more than it has been on me. *Q.E.D.* as they say.



Roberto Martinez of Real Madrid and (?) Spain

LESLIE VERNON

PAR
-ARM
SOCC

I LIKE Mike! Parkinson, I mean. The guy with the beautiful set of fingernails, the boyish smile and the penchant for cacophonous noises which he describes as jazz. I forgive him for shamelessly plugging somebody's latest record, book, film etc., while attacking other people's commercialism. I forgive him for making a small fortune out of the nightlife adventures of an Irish ex-footballer while campaigning against the muck-raking journalism of the "popular" press. But I wont tolerate Parky's repeated unfair sneering comments on football.

Let's take his latest offering which was published in the "Sunday Times". Parkinson says that the British Press hailed England's victory over the dreaded Germans as though it was the second coming. In his opinion, it was a non-event. A game which England desperately wanted to win, but which the Germans didn't take seriously. I don't know whether or not he has a private hot-line to the Chancellry in Bonn, but I can assure him that Helmut Schoen and his below-par team in fact regarded the match as of vital importance.

Motivated

No visiting team has ever come to Wembley merely for the ride, and when a game is televised live to two hundred million people, the participants are fully motivated to do their best. Not one West German player or commentator would advance such a disingenuous excuse after a defeat, and they certainly don't need the advocacy of an armchair-bound T.V. personality to whitewash their sorry performance.

As for England, thankfully, they always try to win, whoever the opposition or whatever is at stake. I can only remember two exceptions to this rule—the match against Bulgaria in the 1962 World Cup, when a draw was sufficient to ensure a quarter-final place, and Sir Alf's folly in Berlin ten years later, when the England supremo was too seared to attempt to retrieve a two goals' deficit in the European Championship.

In fact, the 2-0 win over the World Champions and the promising performance itself, were treated with surprising restraint by the Press. No silly conclusions were drawn, or theories advanced how well we would have done in the World Cup. Parkinson says that modern football is dull, unimaginative, lacks colour, excitement, in short, it is a travesty of what the game is all about.

He saw the Leeds v. Everton match the other night and . . . Hey, wait a minute! That league match kicked-off at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and finished (if my mathematics are right) at 4.40 p.m. And that is the crux of my objections to Parkinson's diatribe. He had only seen the T.V. version, the ersatz edition of the Leeds game. Mike and several other similarly vociferous critics of football never actually bother to go to a match.

Pele, who visited Belgium recently to play in the Paul Van Himst testimonial match.

Enjoyable

How dare they comment at all? On what evidence—pro or con—do they base their opinions? I have seen an awful lot of football this season, and conversely, a lot of awful football! But I have also witnessed tolerably enjoyable games, and some really excellent ones. The truth is that English football is no better or no worse than it has been for twenty years.

Matthews, Haynes and Greaves are no longer with us, but on their day, a Bowles, Brooking, Marsh or Hudson can generate sheer delight. This piece doesn't intend to be a commercial for football Mark '75. But don't let us kid ourselves. All our yesterdays weren't so brilliant either—notwithstanding the "expert" comments of people like Parkinson, who use a box in the corner instead of a seat in the stand!

Apart from some truly outstanding players, the modern game has produced teams like Brazil in 1970, Ajax during their three years' reign of Europe, and West Germany who were at their best in 1972. Why didn't we copy them? When I posed this simple question to a club manager after a Mexico Tournament, he said: "Give me a Carlos Alberto, a Gerson and a Pele—then I might attempt to imitate the Brazilians. But with the players at my disposal . . ." Was this defeatism or realism?

Television, with its aura of immortality, seems to affect some of its performers in a strange way. Bill Grundy, another ex football writer, never misses an opportunity to sneer at his ex-colleagues, and to show off his own allegedly superior intellect. Apart from his unwarranted T.V. attacks on some of the most respected members of his former profession, he has also written a despicable little piece in that magazine which describes itself as the "alternative" football publication.

RKINSON
MCHAIR TV
CER CRITIC

Alternative to what? Good taste, common sense, fair play, sound judgement, responsible comment? Grundy has the audacity to write that all football reporters up-north are drunket louts, who only took up the profession to get near the free booze distributed at such glamorous places as Rochdale. I wont even both to waste further time on his puerile outbursts.

And now let's deal with the fashionable view that certain teams deserve to win the league while others don't. At the time of writing the issue is wide open, and in the end, the club with the most points will be the champions of England. And that is precisely the point I am making.

Each team play 42 games in a season against precisely the same opposition. If dull, defensive Everton amass the biggest haul, then they are ipso facto "worthy" champs. If the much praised Stoke or Derby do the same, I take my hat off to either of them. Any other view or approach is unfair. I have seen Everton (at Arsenal) play exciting, enterprising football, and I have seen Derby (at Arsenal) play sterile, negative stuff.

The closeness of the race doesn't prove anything either. Jackie Charlton said that Leeds were great champions in 1974, because they ran away from the field and won in a canter. But the very same Leeds side were never in the hunt this term. Does that mean that last year's bunch were inferior, or that this term we had six or seven teams as good as the Leeds of 1974? A futile, silly argument.

To win the English league is a tremendously difficult task every year, and if a club triumphs without resorting to shady deals or unseemly dirty play, they deserve some credit. Be it dull Everton, workmanlike Liverpool, rural Ipswich or the people's favourites, Derby or Stoke!

Finally a joke, specially imported from Italy. Gianni Rivera, captain of Milan, walked up to a referee after a local derby against Inter. "Thanks ref", he said. "It was a wonderful game, pity that you didn't see it!"

Alan Stevenson of Burnley punches clear from his crowded goalmouth in a match against Queen's Park Rangers.

PAUL PARISH previews 1975 FA Cup Final...

WAL A HAMM

DEPENDING on where you live and who you support the 1975 F.A. Cup Final will either be a Walt Disney Football Fantasia or a Hammer (no pun intended) horror movie.

Londoners, notably those born east of Bow Bells and west of Putney Bridge, will understandably be caught up in the traditional Cup Final euphoria as West Ham and Fulham form a pair of improbable Wembley combatants.

Outside the capital, however, the game is scarcely likely to be greeted with the same enthusiasm. And dare I suggest that within London itself more serious soccer thinkers will not altogether care for this particular finale to the F.A. Cup which has been riddled with shocks and surprises from the third round onwards.

It might, then, be considered appropriate for me to give the observations of someone with a heart which is delighted with the final and a head that rules that this is one of the lesser chapters in the story of the F.A. Cup.

To be a West Ham supporter, you see, is a hereditary disease within my family. I've seen them in action, from the terraces mark you, against all their cup opposition barring third round vanquished Southampton. Yet while I'm as delighted as any man who has ever worn a claret and blue scarf that the Hammers are at Wembley I regard myself as someone who has tried to think about football. Perhaps that comes of supporting West Ham.

Romance

If you think about the game, in particular this game, you find that the final is symptomatic of English football. Earlier this year two Second Division sides reached the final of the Football League Cup, now another has reached the final of the F.A. Cup.

Romance is all very well but aren't these facts an indictment of the standards currently set in the First Division, which, after all, should be the master race as far as British soccer is concerned.

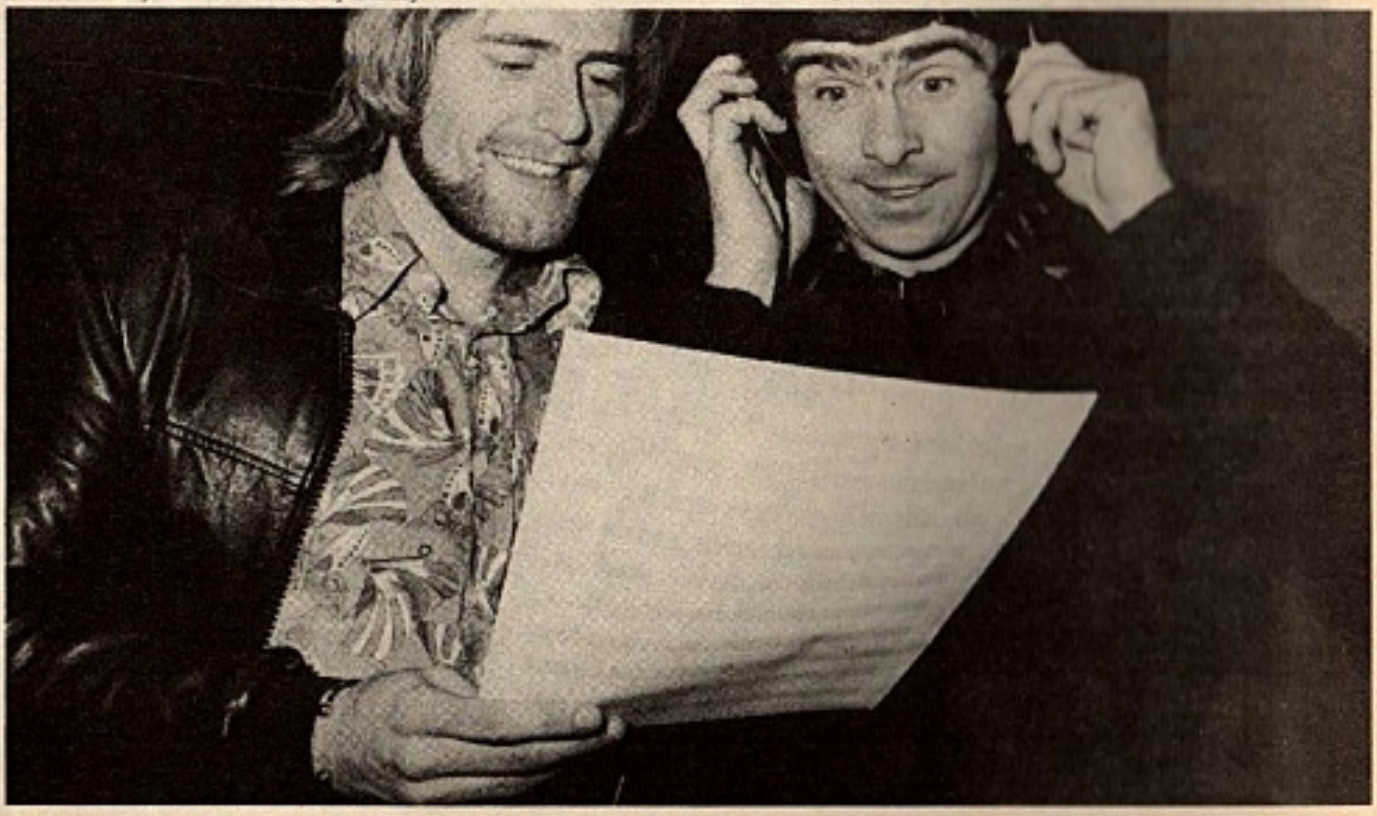
It certainly makes comments like those of Crystal Palace manager Malcolm Allison sound less outrageous for, after one notable top of the table clash at Selhurst Park this year, he opined that there was very little separating the top of the Third Division with the bottom of the First Division—on ability and skill, that is.

Results, certainly, support that view though I expect that my assessment that there has been a general levelling down would not agree with those of Mr Allison.

This state of affairs has come about through the strict adhesion to the first commandment of English soccer: Thou Shalt Not Lose.

Put it another, even simpler, way: FEAR.

Ron Greenwood, West Ham's general manager and arch disciple of all things good in football, has spoken on that subject in the past and his words ring even more true today than they did two or three years ago when first he spoke on the topic.



Something to sing about for this West Ham duet of Graham Paddon (left) and Bobby Gould at the CBS recording studios in London.

T DISNEY OR ER HORROR?

John Mitchell scores the vital Fulham goal in the FA Cup replay against Birmingham City.

It is significant, perhaps, that West Ham and Fulham are, by tradition, not among the teams frightened to lose in their efforts to win. The negative attitude brought about by big business in soccer have, for the most, by-passed Upton Park and Craven Cottage and, for this alone, the two finalists are deserving of their place at Wembley.

Theirs is a philosophy that will not win League Championships but might just — and this year will — win Cup matches. For in the Cup nothing less than victory will suffice.

West Ham's improved attitude to difficult situations was not expected to win them anything immediately. They hoped rather than expected success after a year of playing staff and managerial alterations.

Survival

On the other hand Fulham suddenly found themselves caught in a whirlwind of soccer success that has sucked them right the way through to Wembley. Being a Second Division side they had nothing to lose in their battles with then league leaders Everton, First Division survival seekers Carlisle or semi-finalists Birmingham. Being Fulham, friendly, sociable, likeable, Fulham made the improbable all the more probable the nearer they came to the final.

It is this fact that will now put Fulham on an even footing at Wembley with West Ham. If jangling nerves survive—and this could happen to either side—Fulham's position as the underdog will cushion them against West Ham's accepted advantage in playing ability.

There seems little likelihood that West Ham will overcome Fulham as easily as Liverpool did Newcastle in last year's all First Division Final. What Sunderland did to Leeds two years ago Fulham could more easily do to West Ham. It's that kind of final.

Both sides are relatively inexperienced of the big time. In some ways Fulham have the advantage with Bobby Moore, facing his old side, and Alan Mullery back on a Wembley stage that they must have believed had given them their last curtain call.

Attributes

It's a stage made for Moore. It's an occasion made for Moore and West Ham will doubtless have been using their build-up period reminding themselves of the man's lesser attributes—not faults—that they, more than anybody, should know. If Moore is allowed to dominate, as he loves to dominate these kind of matches, then West Ham could be sunk.

Moore and Mullery will coax and cajole the best from the youngsters around them. Men like John Mitchell, the semi-final hero, Viv Busby, whose goals cracked Everton or defenders John Fraser and Les Strong will receive all the help available from the elder statesmen within their ranks.

Les Barrett, who can be a penetrating runner, is another for whom West Ham must prepare, but preparation is something West Ham will not be lacking.

Their bargain-buy forward line of Billy Jennings, goal-scoring hero Alan Taylor and Keith Robson cost less between them than most clubs would spend happily on one man who would earn a Wembley place for his team.

The majesty of Trevor Brooking, the selfless working of Graham Paddon and the indestructibility of Billy Bonds will give West Ham an edge in midfield—an edge that may blunt itself unless Brooking and Paddon, in particular, are more prepared to put themselves into scoring positions.

At the back Kevin Lock, one of England's outstanding young defenders, will get his chance to impress on an impressive occasion.

Both sides seem well equipped in goal with Fulham's Peter Mellor having a remarkable run of success. Young Footballer of the Year Mervyn Day shows a maturity beyond his years in West Ham's goal though I suspect that Fulham will be searching out his judgement of cross balls to the far post that have remained a blind spot in an otherwise magnificent year for the brilliant youngster.

Tradition

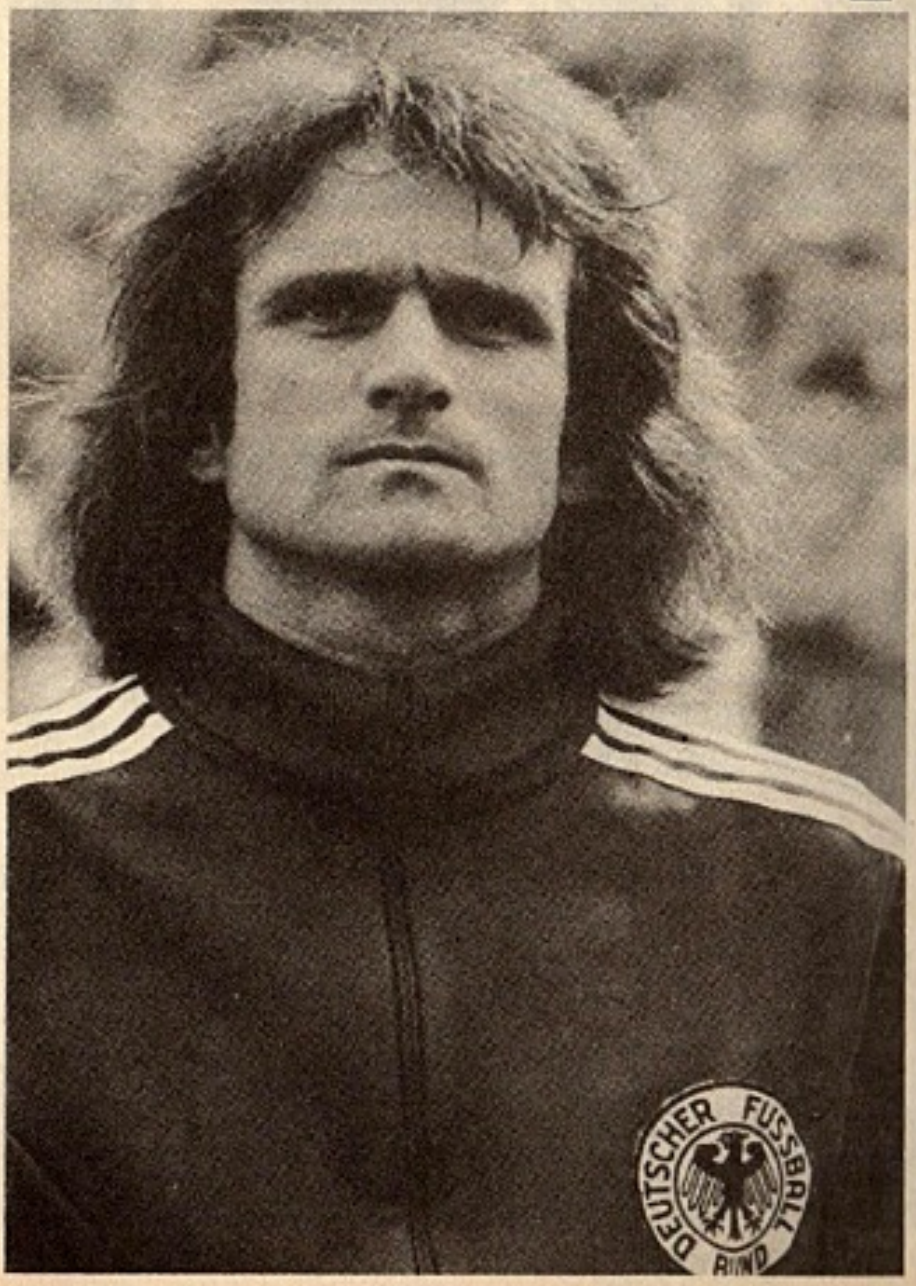
A divisional gulf may exist between the sides but in everything else there is so little to choose between them. The fact that by tradition both are entertainers could make this a far better Cup Final than we have seen for many years and many people north of London may expect.

I hope that in the final weeks fear does not strike at their hearts. Far better that both sides should play as they can and lose honourably rather than bore the pants off a multi-million viewing audience for the sake of not losing.

It will be good for Fulham and the underdog if they win. I suggest it will be good for English football if West Ham win . . . and it won't do me any harm, either!

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Overath -still a world class player



THE long and distinguished career of Wolfgang Overath, one of the greatest midfield players Germany has produced, is gradually nearing its end. The now 31-year-old captain of Cologne—or to give the club its correct title, 1.FC Koln—who has gained 81 caps for his country (only Franz Beckenbauer has more), has already retired from the national side, for whom he scored 17 goals, which is not bad for a schemer.

Overath regarded the triumph in the World Cup last year, in which he played a major role, as his ultimate achievement. For him there are no more peaks to scale, although he would dearly love to win a European trophy and now that Cologne have reached the semi-finals of the UEFA-Cup, this remaining ambition may yet be fulfilled. With nearly 350 appearances in championship matches, Overath holds a record in the *Bundesliga*. In these he hit the respectable total of nearly 80 goals.

What has astonished all neutral observers and experts this season, is the realisation that far from being "finished", Overath is now playing better than ever! He appears to have discarded at last the millstone round his neck: The worry over his place in the national side. For at least two years he was plagued by the bitter controversy raging around him, of whether he or Netzer should be the "general" in midfield.

Humiliation

Quite often Overath was the butt of the so-called "fans", who had made international players their principal targets for abuse and humiliation. Now that there is no Overath as the national representative he has at last regained his peace of mind. His playing qualities were never in doubt. Overath remains the skilled technician, the organiser, schemer and natural leader of the club side. And he is still a fair and well behaved player.

During the recent championship match against Kickers Offenbach, he was near the opposing goal, yet he kicked the ball deliberately into touch, because an Offenbach player was writhing on the ground in obvious agony and required attention. How many professional footballers do you see today, who would make a similar gesture during a vital game?

Wolfgang Overath with the West German team during the 1974 World Cup finals.

Wolfgang Overath was born on September 29, 1943, and grew up in the provincial town of Siegburg, some 17 miles south-east of Cologne, just beyond the Rhine hills. He began his playing career as a junior with the local SSV Siegburg 04, which plays in the regional Amateur League, called Mittelrhein.

His talent was spotted early and after he had played just 12 months in the first team, he was chosen for the international youth side to play against Denmark. Subsequently, having impressed the national coach, he became a regular member of the junior squad and represented his country in the 1961 UEFA tournament in Portugal, in which the West Germans finished third.

Not surprisingly, several top clubs were alerted by the talent of Overath, among them the nearest giants FC Cologne. When in the off-season break, in 1962, the club had offered him terms, Overath quickly accepted. Not least because he was able to remain with his family in Siegburg, for the bright lights of Cologne had little lure for the fresh faced 18-year-old Wolfgang.

Coincided

At that time the competition for places in Cologne's first team was at its height, so that he spent most of his first year either in the reserves, or in the youth side. Overath's big break though coincided with the introduction of professional football and the creation of the first National League (Bundesliga) in West Germany.

In the first season, 1963-64, the 1.FC Koln won the first title of the *Bundesliga* champions and young Overath, now a regular performer at inside left, appeared in all 30 matches, with great distinction. He was gently but firmly guided by his famous left wing partner, the unforgettable Hans Schäfer, a hero of West Germany's World Cup winning side of 1954.

Schäfer, then already 36 years old, encouraged and often cajoled young Overath, in whom he saw a great prospect. And the youngster responded with such scintillating displays, that he was showered with superlatives. And thus, after serving his apprenticeship in the national youth and Under-23 sides, he was chosen in his first *Bundesliga* season for the full national squad. The old maestro Sepp Herberger decided that Overath was ready for the highest honour. A day before his 20th birthday he came on as a substitute into the side which beat Turkey by 3-0 at Frankfurt.

Immaculate

Overath had already then developed his style of play which was to become his hallmark; He uses his immaculate left foot to execute long diagonal passes to either wing. His clever switches of direction and control of pace, close and elegant dribbling, the instinct to release the ball at precisely the right time and ability to "read" a game have stamped him quite early in his international career as a schemer of exceptional class.

Overath was at first rather reluctant to shoot at goal, perhaps conscious of his role as a ball carrier and provider—in German a "Spielmacher" or "Regisseur". His skill and elevated status of an international star have inevitably made him a target for opposing defenders. He had to take some stick which he did not relish, nor accept as part of the game, at first.

In the 1964-65 season he suffered for the first and only time in the *Bundesliga*, the ignominy of being sent off the field. It happened in a match against 1860 Munich, when Overath retaliated following a foul by Zeisser.

One of Overath's greatest displays at club level came in the play-off of the European Cup quarter-final versus Liverpool on March 24, 1965 in Rotterdam. With Cologne trailing by 0-2, after just 40 minutes play, Overath took over command in midfield and he was instrumental in his team squaring the match at 2-2, thanks to goals by Thielen and Lohr. Alas, the German champions lost the tie on a toss of the coin!

Meanwhile in the national side Overath was not always showing his club form. It appeared that strange surroundings and new team mates were liable to stifle and "freeze" his talents. It was a crucial period in the career of young Wolfgang, as national manager Helmut Schon was beginning to pencil in his squad for the 1966 World Cup competition. But a fine performance in the last international before the finals in England, when he scored a goal in a 2-0 win over Yugoslavia, at Hannover, clinched his place in the party and he never looked back since.

In the world series his skilful, thoughtful, yet hard working methods drew unstinted praise from friend and foe alike. No one fought harder than Overath in that dramatic and for the Germans tragically lost final. Four years later, he was again one of the pillars of the national side in the Mexico World Cup, when his country gained an honourable third place.

Outstanding

Overath himself scored the only goal against Uruguay (1-0), which assured this high placing. Indeed, he was voted the outstanding player of the tournament.

His problems came later as a result of a nagging injury, plus the emergence of another great schemer who had captured the hearts and imagination of the German soccer fraternity. This was the famous Gunter Netzer. In March 1972, just before the international v. Hungary, in Budapest, which was to serve as a final trial for the European Championship quarter - final against England, Overath was operated on for hernia and this put him out of football for six weeks.

He was by then also the captain of the national team, having succeeded Uwe

● *Continued on page 30*

Dynamo Dresde Sachsenring Zw

FOOTBALL in East Germany during the last month has been dominated by the international against Bulgaria and the semi-finals of the DFV Pokal which are played on a home and away basis.

The draw brought the co-favourites together — Dynamo Dresden v FC Carl Zeiss — that inevitably produced two big gates. The first leg in Dresden was watched by 33,000 with another 20,000 in Jena.

At home, Dynamo, still without Hans-Jurgen Kreische though he has started training again, really got on top of the league leaders after a goal-less first half.

Ruchter opened the scoring for Dynamo, Vogel equalised for Zeiss and then came two goals from 18 years old Gerd Weber who seems likely to be the discovery of the season.

Weber plays in midfield and was given the responsibility of taking a penalty for Dynamo with the score at one each. He took it with all the calm assurance of a veteran. Weber has a lot of experience behind him — a record 51 caps for the DDR Youth XI — but playing in front of such a big crowd and getting a penalty at 1-1 it speaks volumes.

Solitary

In the second leg there was a real battle with 30 fouls given against Carl Zeiss and 33 against Dynamo, but all Zeiss could manage was a solitary goal by left back Lothar Kubjuweit in the first half and after that Dynamo kept their shutters tight to win 3-2.

The other half of the draw produced two matches of less violence with the experienced referee Rudi Glockner in charge between Sachsenring Zwickau and Wismut Ave . . . Wismut struggling to rebuild their prestige which still lingers from the times when they were top dogs and the town was known as Chemnitz.

Only 9,000 saw the first leg in Zwickau which the home side won 1-0 but Wismut failed on penalty kicks after winning the second leg 2-1 in front of 20,000 of their fans.

The final on June 14 will be between Sachsenring Zwickau and Dynamo Dresden with Dynamo the inevitable favourites.

The spring campaign began with a round of league games that enabled FC Carl Zeiss to improve on their goal average lead at the top. Away to Hansa Rostock they won 2-0 with goals from 22 years old Martin Goebel and inside right Harald Irmscher who had a fine game. This round produced a total of 127,000 spectators (a record for this season) with 20,000 of them in Rostock.

In Berlin, 1st FC Magdeburg had to struggle to get a point from a 2-2 draw. They led 1-0 at half time but quickly found themselves 1-2 down in the second half and only a late goal from the very promising 19 years old Axel Tyll who has already been capped gained them a point. A 19,000 crowd in Berlin is a real achievement these days.

Campaign

The biggest crowd of the day was inevitably in Dresden where Dynamo entertained Wismut Ave and gave their fans a fine afternoon with a 5-0 win. Hartmut Schade was the star turn, having a fine game in midfield and scoring one of the goals. This win put Dynamo who started the campaign very poorly, back up into third place.

In the goalscorers race veteran Eberhard Vogel of Carl Zeiss shares top billing with unknown Werner Peter from HFC Chemie, each on 11. In third place is Jurgen Pommerenke of 1st FC Madgeburg are no doubt feeling the absence of Pommerenke's 'twin' who also gets goals from midfield — the injured Jurgen Sparwasser who has undergone a cartilage operation.

There is a rare struggle going on at the bottom of the table too. Vorwarts Stralsunf appear to be booked with only eight points but next in line are Hansa Rostock, FC Vorwarts Frankfurt (the army team fallen on hard times) and 1st FC Lokomotive Leipzig. They change places almost weekly but the team most likely to escape is Lokomotive Leipzig whose struggle is led by the veteran international with more than 50 caps, Henning Frenzel who will be 33 in May.

Frenzel scored both goals in the 2-1 win over Stahl Riesa the winner only four minutes from time which can't be bad for a player of his age. Their problem is that they haven't a regular scorer and clearly miss centre forward Hans-Bert Matoul who was top Oberliga scorer last season with 20.

He retired and now plays Division I football for fun and has scored 52 so far this season, even though he wasn't specially skilful, he knew where the goal was . . . and found it.

Struggle

A FIERCE struggle is going on at both ends of the table in Czechoslovakia with one point separating no less than seven clubs at the bottom and reigning champions Slovan Bratislava struggling in the spring campaign to regain their winning rhythm of the past.

Since the resumption, Slovan have won 1 drawn 4 and lost 1 and they are under pressure from neighbours Internacional, the Prague club Bohemian and Brno who showed all the signs of improvement last season and have kept it up.

Another bitter pill for Slovan to swallow was being knocked out of the Slovak Cup by lowly Nitra. After two drawn games, Nitra won 3-2 on penalties and with Spartak Trnava accounting for Lokomotive Kosice (leaders of Division II) it's Trnava v Nitra for the Slovak Cup.

In the Czech Cup final Sparta Prague beat Banik Ostrava by a single goal headed from a corner by their stopper Oldrich Urban. The crowd at Letna was a mere 3,000 which would have been ten times higher a few years back. After the two cups have been won, the winners meet in a grand final at home and away for the Czechoslovak Cup and the right to a place in the European competition.

In the championship, newly promoted LIAZ Jablonec have slipped after a promising start in front of enormous crowds. They went down at home for the first time this season to Trinec who are bottom of the table — beaten 3-1 and are going to struggle more. Zilina improved their chances by drawing 1-1 in Prague with Dukla who are having an unhappy time.

This game was watched by a mere 1,305 and the following week at home to VSS Kosice, Zilina ran up a 4-1 win. There the crowd was also less than two thousand and it is strange indeed that the Kosice scorers Galis and Strausa just don't seem able to get goals away from home.

K POLAND

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Brno are the team of the moment. At home to Spartak Trnava they pulled in 23,000 and won 1-0 with a goal from the highly promising Under 23 cap Karel Kroupa. Brno did even better the following week, boosting their gate to 25,000 who saw a 2-1 win over Sparta with Kroupa again and Karel Jarusek getting the goals while Sparta's solitary reply came from Josef Jurkanin only four minutes from the end.

Jurkanin appeared to have a great future three years ago but a cartilage operation kept him out of the game for a long period. He's still a good player, but seems to lack fire and it is questionable whether he is really suited to the centre forward role he has been given lately.

Problems

Brno's biggest achievement however was the visit of the leaders Slovan who again pulled in 25,000. Brno beat 2-0, closing the gap to only one point temporarily and sending Slovan boss Jozef Venglos home with a head full of problems.

Slovan began well enough, beating Slavia 2-0 with goals from Ivan Pekarik and Juraj Novotny their midfield men and they took a vital point when they drew 1-1 away to Teplice where international right winger Marian Masny scored the vital goal.

Then they met Spartak Trnava who play a mere 30 miles to the north and the biggest league crowd of the season, 31,327 saw Trnava hang on grimly for a 0-0 draw. Then they crashed in Brno and finally seemed to recover some of their lost form at home to Banik Ostrava when international centre forward Jan Svehlik scored twice in a 4-0 win.

Bohemians have had a good run, scoring five goals against VSS Kosice (5-2) with centre forward Jan Jarkovsky (capped when he was playing in Division II) taking a hat trick which is rare these days in Czechoslovakia. Their crowd was a mere 4,000 however.

The following week they were away — about 1,000 yards up the road — to Slavia where their big win no doubt added an extra spice to the local derby and 19,000 paid to get in, the biggest crowd for months in Prague. Slavia won a tough game 2-1 while the same weekend poor Dukla (sharing the Bohemians ground still) attracted only 3,000 for the visit of Skoda Plzen.

Dukla, bossed by former star Josef Masopust have struggeled for weeks after winning the UEFA Cup place last season. But with centre forward Zdenek Nehoda fit again and starting to get goals they should improve.

Spartak Trnava are still struggling to rebuild their side after several years of success and appear to have found a winner in 18 years old right winger Rudolf Kramolis who scored twice on his debut in a 3-2 win over Ostrava.

The leading scorers are Ladislav Petra (Internacional), the star in Mexico who shares top place with Peter Galis of VSS Kosice on 13. They are followed by Jan Strausz (also from Kosice) and the Slovan left winger Jan Capkovic with 12 and 11.

Injuries

WLODZIMIERZ Lubanski made a comeback to the Gornik Zabrze team in Poland and scored a goal within fifteen minutes after being out of the game for around 20 months. Unhappily for Gornik, he didn't return in time for their most humiliating game of all time when, in the semi final of the Cup they were beaten 2-1 by ROW Rybnik's Reserve team. ROW II now meet Second Division leaders Stal Rzeszow in the final!

Gornik are well out of the championship race, 14 points behind the top team and it is clearly a straight fight between them and Stal Mielec. World Cup star Andrzej Szarmach has been a solitary figure keeping Gornik away from the relegation zone, getting the vital goals in a 1-1 draw at home to Szombierki and another 1-1 draw away to newly promoted GKS Tychy.

Then came an away date with ROW (first team of course) and Lubanski and Szarmach got a goal apiece in a 3-0 win that makes their Cup defeat even more difficult to understand.

These two, who seem to have struck up a quick understanding also scored a goal each in the 3-0 win over Arka Gdynia but in the big local derby Ruch v Gornik they were outclassed at the Sluski stadium. Bronislav Bula scored all three goals for Ruch while Szarmach got Gornik's consolation goal.

Ruch Chorzow are clearly the team of the moment with Bula in fine form. Their secret is that they have so many potential goalscorers. Bula got the goal away to Polonia Bytom (1-1) Bula, Zygmunt Maszczyk (Footballer of the Year) and Joachim Marx scored in a 3-1 win over LKS Lodz and then in the needle game away to their only real challengers for the title Stal Mielec they went down 1-0 to a goal scored by Grzegorz Lato.

That cut Ruch's lead at the top to three points clearly a game Stal had to win. Even now, Stal have three more home games to play than Ruch, but the Chorzow club are favourites unless the team disintegrates or is badly hit by injuries.

Just how deep Ruch's scoring depth is was illustrated at home to Wisla Krakow who have been much below last season's

MARIAN MASNY of Slovan.

fine form. Jozef Kopicera and Zdislaw Kapka got goals to put Wisla 2-1 up and then came stopper Marian Ostafinski with a pair of goals in the last twenty minutes to give Ruch a 3-2 win.

Stal Mielec have had a good run with their two main scorers Grzegorz Lato and Jan Domarski in the scoring mood right from the re-start. They drew 1-1 with Slask Wroclaw; beat Arka Gydnia 2-0 (Lato and Domarski one each) and then beat Ruch Chorzow. After that they went to Warsaw where they beat Gwardia 3-0 (Lato 2 and Domarski 1) and against Polonia Bytom they struggled against a side that managed to get 1-0 up and pulled back to defend it.

Wave after wave of assaults on the Polonia goal but it wasn't until the 77th minutes that Lato grabbed an equaliser. Then disaster struck Stal's championship hopes when they went down 1-0 away to LKS Lodz whose hero of the day was the goalkeeper 'clown' Jan Tomaszewski who had a great game.

In the autumn the Lodz club seemed to have nothing going for them and looked doomed to be relegated. In the last six games however LKS have fought back beating Arka 2-0; Swardia 2-0 and then drawing with Polonia Bytom (away) 0-0 and Zaglebie Sosnowiec (1-1).

Then came the win over Stal and if they continue with their new found form and confidence they will escape. They are one of seven clubs separated by only three points though they have scored only 17 goals in 21 games.

One would have thought that Legia Warsaw's winter tour to Australia would have sent them home as well prepared as anyone but something has gone wrong with their goalscoring efforts and manager Jaroslav Vejvoda seems unable to put things right.

Clearly they miss the all round ability, to say nothing of the goals contributed by Robert Gadocha who has not played for Legia since October when his transfer to Nantes was first offered. Legia have now been through six consecutive drawn games.

European news review—BELGIUM... PORTUGAL... HOLLAN

Juventus beat Napoli in the crucial match

IN what was probably the most crucial match in the Italian championship, Juventus beat Napoli 2-1. It was a tense affair with Franco Causio giving Juventus the lead and Antonia Juliano equalising. The deadlock remained right to the end when old man Jose Altafini weighed in with the winner for the Romans in the 89th minute! And of course as any Neapolitan needs no reminding about Altafini is a former Napoli player himself . . .

Thus Juventus have survived defeats in recent weeks by the odd goal at Roma 1-0 and Torino 3-2 to retain the leadership with 37 points, three in front of Napoli. This includes Juventus dropping another valuable point away to Cagliari while Napoli took it out on Ternana, hammering them 7-1 in an unusual scoring spree.

And talking of Ternana, their recent goalless draw at home with Inter-Milan was the occasion of the 400th League appearance of that sprightly veteran defender Giacinto Facchetti still only 32 years old and an Inter stalwart since he made his debut in May 1961 against Roma.

Lazio have fallen away in recent weeks and were involved in a fracas with Napoli in Rome. A penalty four minutes from the end which gave the home side a draw was the signal for visiting fans to break down the barriers between the rival supporters and mix it.

DESPITE being surprisingly beaten 4-1 by lowly Niedercorn, Jeunesse D'Esch are still three points clear of their nearest rivals Avenir Beggen in the Luxembourg Championship.

In the European Championship Austria won 2-1 in Luxembourg but were hard pressed by the enthusiasm of the locals.

AEK ATHENS and Olympiakos are still battling it out neck and neck at the top of the table in Greece, both on 41 points.

AEK have conceded only 10 goals in their 25 matches and have the edge in both attack and defence over Olympiakos Pireaus who lost their place at the head of the First Division with successful 1-1 draws away to Panathinaikos an Kastoria.

PAOK Salonika beat Panathinaiko 2-0 and occupy third place with 3 points, but their victims are now fift with 30 points and out of the hun Ethnikos who were the League leader a few weeks ago are fourth with 3 points after beating Kalamata 3-1.

ANDERLECHT have been unable t reduce the points deficit they hav behind the Belgian leaders RWD Molen beek.

Even the match they had in hand o RWD was squandered when the re arranged fixture at FC Liege ended wit a 1-0 defeat for them.

Now RWD Molenbeek are five point clear and looking likely champions. Ye Anderlecht have had the opportunity o getting back at them. Unfortunately th crucial match between the two ende with RWD winning 1-0 and then cam Anderlecht's elimination from the Euro pean Cup against Leeds.

RWD dropped a point away t Lokeren in a 1-1 draw while Anderlech were taking five clear goals off Berchem Then RWD accounted for Antwerp 2- and a similar margin saw Anderlech safe at Winterslag. But a rearrange game saw RWD beat Standard Lieg 3-2 from a penalty and Anderlecht wer trailing badly once more.

But then along came Bruges — th city of course — and not for the fir time it had a significant effect.

Anderlecht beat FC Bruges 1-0 bu CS Bruges defeated RWD by the sam single goal margin, the leaders' onl second league reverse.

But by beating Lierse 2-1 they hav kept their lead intact despite Anderlech getting a 4-0 win at FC Malinois.

THE closing weeks of the season i Holland have seen the big thre heading for a photo-finish with fou games to go. PSV Eindhoven, for s long the most consistent side, have bee slipping slightly again.

Bigon in action for Milan in an Italian league game.

...ALY...GREECE...

Some of the best players in the world gathered in Brussels recently to play in a testimonial match for Paul Van Himst of Anderlecht. Pictured above are Eusebio (Benfica), Katalinski (Sarajevo) and Cruyff (Barcelona).

They have a one-point lead over Feyenoord who in turn are one point in front of Ajax.

A few weeks ago it was Feyenoord who had sneaked ahead with a better goal record than PSV with both teams on 40 points. Ajax, held 2-2 at Deventer by Go Ahead, were third with 36 points.

The following week it was the turn of Ajax to make ground at the expense of the other two. While they were beating Utrecht comfortably by three clear goals, Feyenoord were dropping a point away to MVV in Maastricht while PSV were losing their second league game of the season 2-1 at Alkmaar against AZ 67.

Shock

Feyenoord then won 3-0 away to FC Amsterdam while PSV defeated Roda JC 1-0 at home. This time Ajax slipped, only getting a point at Sparta in a 1-1 tie. Then came the big shock.

Amsterdam won the return in Rotterdam against Feyenoord by the odd goal in three, while PSV won 4-0 away to Roda and Ajax were beating Sparta 2-0 at home.

All this left the situation with PSV back at the top on 44 points, Feyenoord one behind and Ajax on 41. Clearly shaken by this unexpected setback, Feyenoord then dropped a point themselves at home to Sparta in the Rotterdam derby, while PSV were beating Telstar 1-0 and Ajax were getting a 4-1 win at Haarlem.

Then it was the turn of PSV to drop a point away to De Graafschap (1-1) while Feyenoord won 1-0 away to Excelsior and Ajax continue to impress with a 4-0 success over AZ 67.

In the goal-scoring race the Ajax striker Ruud Geels has overtaken Willy Van der Kuylen and has 28 goals compared with his PSV rival's 23. In third place is the Austrian international centre-forward of Feyenoord Willy Kreuz with 20 goals.

In the European Cup competitions FC Amsterdam were well beaten 8-3 on aggregate by FC Cologne but Twente Enschede came through safely against Velez Mostar 2-1 over the two legs as did PSV over Benfica.

BENFICA were badly hit in the Cup winners Cup by PSV Eindhoven, the Dutch Cup holders. Despite drawing in Holland, the Dutchmen surprised the Lisbon club by winning 2-1 in the return leg.

This had an immediate league effect on Benfica who promptly lost by the odd goal in three to Setubal. And with Sporting Lisbon carving Espinho up to the tune of 5-1, they were able to reduce the leaders advantage to three points.

But a week later and Benfica had sufficiently recovered to tan Oriental 4-0 while Sporting were dropping a point away to CUF (2-2). This time it was the turn of the original league leaders this term, Porto, to come back with a 6-1 victory away from home against Farense. Thus Benfica had 44 points at this stage, four more than Sporting and five more than Porto.

Comfortable

All three then had comfortable wins in the fifth round of the cup, Benfica taking six clear goals off Portimonense, similarly Porto getting half a dozen against Santiago Cacem and Sporting winning 4-1 away to Academico.

Back to the league fare and Benfica won 3-0 away to local rivals Atletico, while Sporting beat Oriental 3-1 at home. But Porto slipped again, this time at home to Leixoes 1-1.

Sporting Lisbon's Hector Yazalde still heads the goal-scoring charts with 30 goals and this is some 13 more than his nearest rival! But Benfica are just as pleased with Artur Jorge, scorer of two of their goals against Atletico.

He appears to have fully recovered from the injury which kept him sidelined for so long. And now all Benfica need is a point from two games to be assured of the title.

GIVE BOLIVIA SOME CREDIT

from Paul Radford in La Paz

WHENEVER the subject of Bolivian soccer is mentioned in South America, it's inevitable that the question of altitude crops up—and not surprisingly. The Bolivian capital, La Paz, is situated at a height of more than 12,000 feet above sea-level, considerably higher than Mexico whose selection as host for the 1970 World Cup (and the 1968 Olympic Games) caused such a furore.

Since Bolivian soccer is generally rated among the weakest in South America, visiting teams who lose in La Paz are quick to blame the altitude. The thin atmosphere with its low oxygen content causes players who are not used to it to tire quickly and can also provoke "altitude sickness".

Naturally, this is a topic about which Bolivians are very touchy. They do not want their triumphs to be dismissed as mere "altitude wins". They argue that altitude makes little difference to results and that whenever top Brazilian or Argentine clubs visit La Paz, they invariably win.

They also point out that the question of altitude does not seem to bother their opponents in the forthcoming South American Championship, Peru and Chile, who have accepted without argument the selection of the Jesus Bermudez stadium in Oruro as the site for Bolivia's home matches. Whereas Oruro is at roughly the same altitude as La Paz, lower-altitude cities such as Cochabamba or Santa Cruz could have been chosen.

Conditions

The Bolivian arguments are all very reasonable, but where they start to fall down is when they claim that, anyway, their players have difficulty in adapting to sea-level conditions. They can't have it both ways. If altitude has little effect on visiting teams, then playing at sea-level must make little difference to Bolivian players.

Personally, I'm sure that altitude does play a greater role than Bolivians would have us believe. The lack of oxygen in La Paz makes me feel ill after just a few minutes of walking and the thought of actually playing football there would absolutely terrify me.

It is, perhaps, relevant to point out that the only time Bolivia has ever won the South American Championship was in 1963 when the tournament was held . . . in Bolivia. The home nation on that occasion succeeded in picking up 11 points from a maximum of 12, a remarkable performance considering the Bolivians usually finish bottom of the competition and had never before placed higher than fourth.

If Bolivians do not consider altitude to be a problem, then they do recognise that the main difficulty facing the development of Bolivian soccer is the lack of quality players. The reasons are fairly obvious. The country has a small population of a few million, mainly Indians who, as elsewhere in South America, do not have the physical condition to play professional soccer.

Unlike other Andean countries, however, Bolivian Indians are passionately interested in soccer and flock to the stadia. And it's an encouraging sign for the future that they run their own national leagues—which could eventually lead to Indians making the breakthrough into the pro ranks.

Compete

Bolivia, at present, has no national league as such. The country's six biggest cities—La Paz, Cochabamba, Sucre, Potosi, Oruro and Santa Cruz, all operate their own professional leagues with anything from six to ten teams. At the end of the season the top two clubs from each city compete for the national title. First they are split into two groups of six with the winner and runner-up of each group being joined by the previous season's national champion for a grand play-off.

The strength of Bolivian football traditionally lies in La Paz which normally provides the national champion, although this supremacy has recently been challenged by Cochabamba whose leading club, Jorge Wilsterman took the title in 1972 and 1973.

Last season the grand play-off was strictly a La Paz v. Cochabamba affair with La Paz's "big two"—The Strongest and Bolivar—taking on Aurora and Petrolero of Cochambaba as well as the 73 champion Jorge Wilsterman. Wilsterman were widely expected to gain their third title in a row, but it was The Strongest who proved to be the better all-round side.

I recently watched a Copa Libertadores match at the Hernando Siles Stadium in La Paz between the two top Bolivian teams in which The Strongest beat Wilsterman 3-1. The standard of soccer was quite frankly, disappointing and most of the action was provided by the clubs' Argentine and Brazilian players (five foreigners are allowed per team).

Bolivian Championship 1974

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A
1 Bolivar (La Paz)	10	7	3	0	19	6
2 Petrolero (Cochabamba)	10	4	3	3	17	14
3 San Jose (Oruro) ...	10	5	0	5	16	13
4 La Belgica (Santa Cruz)	10	3	3	4	15	17
5 Wilsterman Unificada (Potosi)	10	4	0	6	13	21
6 Stormers (Sucre)	10	2	1	7	11	20

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A
1 The Strongest (La Paz)	10	8	1	1	25	9
2 Aurora (Cochabamba) ...	10	4	3	3	24	12
3 Independiente Unificade (Potosi)	10	5	0	5	16	21
4 Guabira (Santa Cruz) ...	10	3	3	4	19	17
5 Fancesa (Sucre)	10	3	2	5	12	20
6 Oeste Petrolero (Oruro)	10	2	1	7	8	23

Play-off

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1 The Strongest	8	5	3	0	19	8
2 Jorge Wilsterman (Cochabamba)	8	4	2	2	11	8
3 Petrolero	8	2	3	3	14	17
4 Bolivar	8	0	6	2	6	9
5 Aurora	8	1	2	5	13	21

Leading scorer: Ismael Revollo (The Strongest)

Bolivian professional champions

1960—Deportivo Municipal (La Paz)
1961—Deportivo Municipal
1962—Chaco Petrolero La Paz)
1963—Aurora (Cochabamba)
1964—The Strongest (La Paz)
1965—Deportivo Municipal
1966—Jorge Wilsterman (Cochabamba)
1967—Jorge Wilsterman
1968—Bolivar (La Paz)
1969—Universitario (La Paz)
1970—The Strongest
1971—Oriente Petrolero (Santa Cruz)
1972—Jorge Wilsterman
1973—Jorge Wilsterman
1974—The Strongest

Among the better Bolivian players o view were The Strongest's talented attackir right-back, 21-year-old Eduardo Angul and Wilsterman's forceful centre-forwar Limbert Cabrera Rivero,—both establishe figures in the national side.

Other Bolivian players worth noting a Petrolero's young defender, Jimmy Lin and Bolivar's Carlos Conrado Jimene who has been selected for the "Rest o America" side to play Peru later this yea

Several

But if Bolivian football lacks quali then it can't be criticised for lack of prepar tion. The country's top 25 players hav recently spent several weeks training und national coach, Freddy Valda, with a vie to the forthcoming South America Championship. This sort of preparatio could pay off in the matches against Per and Chile since both opponents are goin through a bad phase and have most of the top players abroad.

If Bolivia do surprise everyone by winnin this group, I hope for the sake of a Bolivians that the victory is not attribute to altitude.

Libertadores Cup reaches its conclusion

by ERIC WEIL

THE Libertadores Cup is the centre of attention on the international scene in South America at the moment—with the top two clubs from 10 countries engaged in first round group games.

At press time only one club had made sure of a semi-final place—Liga Deportiva Universitaria, champions of Ecuador—with still one game to play in their group. But they are from what is considered the weakest group made up of the champions and vice-champions of Ecuador and Venezuela.

The eventual winners were expected to come from Argentina, whose clubs have won the tournament nine times, Brazil (three times), Uruguay (four) or Peru.

In Group 1 Argentine clubs are somewhat handicapped as they are in the middle of a heavy league programme, with two matches during most weeks, so that their weekly Libertadores Cup encounters are the third match of the week. Paraguay's league programme, on the other hand, had not started.

Championships

As a result, the two Argentine clubs—Rosario Central and Newell's Old Boys (both from the provincial town of Rosario for the first time)—have put up some poor performances. Central, who were in great form last year when they finished runners-up in both Argentina's major championships (the Metropolitan and National), were expected to win the group but at the half-way stage they are joint leaders with Olimpia (Paraguay) after having played all their three matches at home.

Central outplayed Newell's in the first half of the first game, then fell away and had to be content with a 1-1 draw. It was a similar story against Cerro Porteño (Paraguay) a week later, the only highlight of a poor match being five minutes in the second half when all three goals were scored to give the Argentines a 2-1 win. The third match, against Olimpia, a 1-1 draw, was also a poor affair which neither side deserved to win. In all these matches Central lacked staying power.

Performances

Joint leaders Olimpia haven't put up any good performances either, but they have drawn both away games which gives them a slight edge. But the group is wide open. All matches have been close, with only one won by more than a one-goal margin. Improving Newell's are only a point behind after three away games and three at home to come . . . and they do seem to be able to conserve their energy better.

The Strongest, Bolivia's champions, appear as the strongest in group 2, while Chile's champions, Huachipato, are the only other team to stand out with their organised play and tight defence. But they have to score more goals. In three matches their defence is unbeaten, but they have only scored one.

Rosario Central (striped shirts) on the attack against Newell's Old Boys with the latter's goalkeeper, Carrascosa, making a flying save. The two Argentine teams drew 1-1 in group one.

Group 3 has produced what looks like a mild surprise with Deportivo Cali, the Colombian champions, leading Cruzeiro of Brazil by one point at the half-way stage after beating them 1-0 in Cali. But Cali have played their three home games and Cruzeiro have played two away.

Home games

Vasco da Gama, the Rio champions, nestle at the bottom with only one point from three games and this may look even more surprising, but all their games have been played away. Their best performance was the 1-1 draw against Colombia's vice-champs, Nacional, in spite of playing the second half with 10 men. Both their defeats have been by one goal and now, with three home games to come, they should move up the table in their group which is also wide open.

Group 5 may provide this year's eventual cup winners—Peñarol or Universitario, champions of Uruguay and Peru respectively, the latter unbeaten in over 30 games. At press time they had yet to meet.

Union Huaral, the sensation of the season in Peru last year when they became vice-champions in their first season in the First Division haven't done so well in the Cup with two heavy defeats in Montevideo after holding Universitario 1-1 at home. But against Peñarol Union Huaral finished with eight men—two sent off, one injured—and also had to contend with Uruguayan World Cup centre-forward Morena at his best. He scored four in Peñarol's 5-2 victory—the best scoring effort in the Cup so far this year.

Full details on pages 48/49

River Plate have will to succeed

IN THE Argentine Metropolitan First Division, River Plate may not be playing all that well—and they are erratic throughout the 90 minutes—but nobody can doubt their will to win and their all-out attacking mentality which has made them one of the leading scorers (17 goals in seven matches) and has also left them as one-point leaders.

River Plate leave themselves open to counter-attack, but the outstanding performances in defence of World Cup captain Roberto Perfumo—one of River's six new buys this season—have minimised the risk. If River does leave loopholes in defence because some of their players don't fall back quickly enough, their attack—and attacking mentality—seems to be the best they have had in recent years.

The fans are not completely convinced that this River Plate team can win the title this year—after a lapse of 17 years—but they are playing the kind of soccer which brings in the fans and River Plate has consistently played to top gates week after week.

Meanwhile national champions San Lorenzo are still looking for their first win this season. The fault is in attack where they can only rely on the ability of Ortiz and the opportunism of Scotta—and its not enough, but they have just bought Chilean international centre-forward Ahuamada from Union Española and he may make a difference.

Boca Juniors are another team far below last years standard although unchanged, but some of their best players—Potente, Trobbiani, Ferrero—are out of form. After losing their first two matches with six players absent due to a pay dispute (see last month's *World Soccer*), they picked up seven points from their next five games, but with far from impressive performances.

Libertadores Cup holders Independiente have put up the best league performances with organised, studied soccer, hitting peak form when beating neighbours Racing Club 5-1. Independiente's forwards go back to fight for the ball much more than those of other teams and this is a big point in their favour.

But three days after beating Atletico Madrid 1-0 in a hard first leg encounter for the Europe-South America Cup, they looked jaded in a league match and went down to their first defeat—by 1-0 at home to lowly Colon de Santa Fe. Colon's well-drilled zone marking effectively held Independiente at bay although the latter had much more of the ball.

Newly-promoted Union, another Santa Fe team, are the surprise of the season, although they bought 14 first team pool players of repute—including Marchetti, Mastrangelo and Jauregui from River and goalkeeper Gatti from Gimnasia—before the start of the season. The question was, would they hit it off together? They did and won their first five games—including a 1-0 win at Rosario Central to stop that club's unbeaten home run in league games (dating back to early 1973) at 29 (26 w and three draws).

Rosario Central, who had last seaso best record as runners-up in both Metropolitan and National championsh didn't stick to their pre-season plan fielding reserves in mid-week league ga while also playing in the Libertadores C Thus the players—involved in three h games most weeks—have shown poor fo

Newell's Old Boys, the other team in Libertadores Cup and also current Met politan champions, control their ene better and are moving up the table afte faltering start, while Huracan, the l champions, regained something of th old form when beating Rosario Central in their latest game with outstanding p formances from their 1973 heroes, Brin Houseman and Larrosa.

Two brothers, N. Scotta (Racing) a H. Scotta (San Lorenzo) jointly top scorers table with Taverna (Banfield) w seven goals each.

Trobbiani of Boca Juniors heads away during his team's 2-1 victory over San Lorenzo.

Economic

URUGUAY'S season started ear than usual this year because in an effort remedy economic ills there will be championships of two rounds each a which the top four of the second champi ship and the top two of the first (which not already qualified) enter a six-team f round.

The winner of this enters the Liber dores Cup—as also the team with m points from the first two championsh according to a system giving five points the first, three to the second, two to third and one to the fourth.

Variety is the spice of life, they say.

COLOMBIA'S lengthy league champi ship was, as usual, the first to start in So America (although Argentina's started the same time this year).

In the "Abertura" championship hard Libertadores Cup tussles with Brazil clubs haven't spoilt the league form Nacional and Deportivo Cali who w joint leaders until Cali went down to th first defeat (1-0 v. Junior) in their fi game.

BRAZIL is the only other country South America where league championsh are already in progress at press time.

Sao Paulo FC tops the Sao Paulo Leag

River Plate's leading scorer Morete leaps to head a centre intercepted by Banfield goalkeeper Lavolpe.

SOUTH AMERICAN ROUND-UP

by ERIC WEIL

while Fluminense are Carioca (Rio) League leaders.

But the news has come off field:

GERSON, who scored Brazil's winner in 1970 World Cup final, retired from soccer in March—ending an 18-year professional career started when he was only 16—to attend his business interests, a chain of sports goods shops.

He declined to renew his contract with Rio club Fluminense this season.

Pele, Brazil's World Cup star who preceeded Gerson into retirement last October, is wanted by Venezuela's vice-champions, Portuguesa, for two matches "at any price"—one of them in April at the inauguration of Portuguesa's new stadium in Acarigua. Portuguesa appear to be willing to pay the 35,000 dollars asked for by Pele.

●IN BRAZIL, Osvaldo Brandao has officially taken over from "Lobo" Zegalo as national team coach and he told reporters that he would pick a World Cup pre-selection squad next year.

●IN URUGUAY, Hector del Campo, president of the Uruguayan FA, sa transfers abroad would be banned from July 1976 until the final World Cup squad is picked.

●IN ARGENTINA, government authorities laid the corner stones of stadia to be built in Cordoba and Mendoza where World Cup matches are scheduled to be played in 1978. In Cordoba the stadium will hold 60,000 (31,500 seated—26,000 under cover) with room for 400 journalists. It will form the centre of a sports centre estimated to cost 36 million dollars.

INDEPENDIENTE started well in the first leg of the Europe-South America Cup against Atletico Madrid in Buenos Aires on March 12. They controlled the game and had more of the ball—if at a somewhat leisurely pace.

It didn't seem to matter that Atletico's defence effectively marked their most dangerous attackers—Balbuena, Bertoni, Rojas, Bochini—because the Spanish team never tried to stop Independiente's attacking movements at source.

But Independiente did not — as they usually do against close-marking defences —pass the ball back and rotate to find the loopholes. Nor did their forwards go back to fight for the ball once robbed—a tactic which has won them many a game.

Precision

Thus the Argentine team had to be content with one goal scored by Balbuena in the 34th minute after receiving a precision pass from Bertoni. The half-time score didn't reflect their superiority during three-quarters of the opening period.

A lenient referee—Charles Corver of Holland—allowed some rough play by the Spaniards who came out of their defensive shell after the goal and Argentine World Cup forward Ayala shot only inches wide after 39 minutes.

Independiente had done most of the running in the first half and seemed tired after the interval when Atletico dominated play simply by moving their halves forward and bringing on an extra forward—Brazilian winger Becerra. But the Spanish team created few good chances—as did Independiente with their Peruvian centre-forward, Percy Rojas, often the only man upfield—and the game deteriorated.

Independiente had been favoured to win more easily. They had been showing excellent form in recent league matches while Atletico had been doing the opposite in Spain.

Atletico's two Argentine World Cup men—who should know—virtually picked Independiente to walk away with it in pre-match interviews. Centre-forward Ayala said that his team was tired after playing too many games, while defender Heredia made the point that Argentine league soccer was now a lot better than Spain's. It may have been "physiological warfare".

On the day Independiente were off form.

Independiente: Perez, Commisso, Lopez, Sá, Pavóni, Galvan, Rodriguez (Semenewicz), Bochini, Balbuena, Rojas, Bertoni (Giribert).

Atletico Madrid: Reina, Melo, Heredia, Benegas, Capón, Eusebio, Alberto (Becerra), Adelardo, Irureta, Garate, Ayala.

Previous Winners

1960—Real Madrid (Spain); 1961—Peñarol (Uruguay); 1962—Santos (Brazil); 1963—Santos (Brazil); 1964 — Internazionale (Italy); 1965—Internazionale (Italy); 1966 — Peñarol (Uruguay); 1967 — Racing (Argentina); 1968 — Estudiantes (Argentina); 1969 — Milan (Italy); 1970 — Feyenoord (Holland); 1971 — Nacional (Uruguay); 1972—Ajax (Holland); 1973 —Independiente (Argentina).

Pele, who made his only appearances in the Cup with Santos in 1962 and 1963, is still the competition's leading scorer with seven goals, followed by Spencer (Peñarol) with five.

from Colin Jose

Phil Woosnam, boss of the NASL, with a special red, white and blue ball produced by Adidas.

McMahon is fired

CANADIAN soccer took a giant step backwards recently when Sport Canada, the Canadian government organisation reponsible for Canadian amateur sport decided to discontinue the subsidy paid to the Canadian Soccer Association to employ a full time general manager for the national soccer team.

It is one of those examples of bureaucratic bungling for which Canadian amateur sport is famous, and it has seriously jeopardised Canada's chances of producing a respectable showing in the 1976 Olympic soccer tournament.

The man directly affected is John McMahon, who has been general manager of Canada's national soccer team since 1971, and is largely responsible for its elevation from insignificance to a degree of respectability.

A short but dynamic man, with a fierce love of the game, McMahon knew that if Canada was to have a chance in the Olympics he must build an amateur team along professional lines and with a professional approach. Few others in Canadian amateur sport had that kind of vision for too often amateur sports administrators in this country come equipped with a set of blinkers which only enables them to see the small and introverted sports world of North America where dollar bills and phony championships take the place of reality.

At fitst the general managers job was an honorary one requiring many hours of part time work and sacrifice. But finally last January it was decided that in view of the supposed Canadian effort to make a respectable showing in these Olympics the job should be full time and the CSA were awarded a government subsidy to cover the wages of a general manager.

Located

One of the proposals of Sport Canada in granting this subsidy was that a "team in being" be set up located in one city. Toronto was selected as this city and national team players were moved to the Ontario capital from all other parts of Canada last September.

To McMahon fell the difficult task of finding them jobs and accommodation. However, he found little co-operation in this task from business or industry particularly at this time of economic recession. Therefore players and their families, who had in some cases given up good jobs and sold their homes, to move to Toronto in the interests of their country, found themselves out of a job and without any prospect of finding one.

In the case of goalkeeper Tony Chursky he moved from his home in North Delta on the west coast where he attended Simon Fraser University to Toronto and the University of Toronto. His reward for acting in the interests of his country was to have the government cut his grant to the point where it was impossible for him to live in Toronto. Consequently he was forced to return home.

With the prospects grim it was decided by the CSA to abandon the scheme and the players moved back to their home towns, hopefully to pick up where they left off.

Now with no "team in being" Sport Canada considered that soccer could do without a general manager and so McMahon got the axe, for the finances of the Canadian Soccer Association are such that they could not afford to pay his salary.

However, the stupidity of it all is that a general manager is needed more when the players are spread across the continent than when they are located in one city and within easy reach.

Before McMahon was laid off he was in the process of lining up international games for Canada this summer and just recently his efforts bore fruit when the Canadian Soccer Association office in Ottawa announced that Canada would play Poland in Montreal on July 6 and in Toronto on July 9. Two games have also been finalised against East Germany in Toronto on July 29 and in Ottawa on July 31.

McMahon's future position in connection with the national team could well hinge on the reception of a proposal from the Vancouver Whitecaps of the North American Soccer League that they take over the administration of the national team. In some quarters this is viewed as an attempt by the NASL club to have all the best amateur players in Canada represent that club without the club having to pay any wage bill.

The outcome of this political wrangling which has dogged Canadian soccer for many years will be awaited with interest particularly on the part of the player of whom hold McMahon in the hig respect.

In the meantime problems on the Olyr site in Montreal seem to have been ire out for the time being and work is gressing in all areas. Now it remains t seen if it can all be finished in time.

San Jose win

THE San Jose Earthquakes are t 1975 Indoor Champions of North American Soccer League. T Earthquakes defeated the newly form Tampa Bay Rowdies 8-5 in the Champi ship Game at the Cow Palace in S Francisco.

The Dallas Tornado took third pla in the Tournament with a 2-0 victo over the New York Cosmos in the co solation game. San Jose reached t final with an 8-5 victory over Dal while Tampa handed the Cosmos a 1 defeat in the other semi-final.

In the final the Earthquakes jumped c into an insurmountable 6-1 lead in t first period on three goals from U. international Archie Roboostoff, t from Paul Child the ex Aston Vi player and one from Art Welch.

Credit Saint Etienne for their progress

from Andre Duclos

PERHAPS it is a somewhat churlish way to look at things, but one can't help wondering how much better Saint Etienne would have done, had they not sold Georges Berneta. Churlish indeed, since no French club had reached the semi-final of the European Cup since Reims were on their way to their second Final in 1959.

Credit for Saint Etienne's marvellous achievements this season, achievements which have certainly brought new hope to French club football, goes in no small measure to the big, 31-year-old Yugoslav international goalkeeper, Ivan Curkovic. With his rich experience and his exceedingly mature approach to the game, he has been an admirable shoulder for the young manager Roby Herbin, till so recently captain of the team, to lean and rely on.

Not that Curkovic is anything but modest about his contribution. He shrugs it off by saying that, as a goalkeeper, he is in an excellent position to see more of the game.

Interestingly enough, he believes that the Saint Etienne team has not remotely reached its zenith, despite its splendid achievement this season. This, to him, is "the most reassuring aspect" of what they have done. "Among the 16 players on our strength are lads who have not yet arrived, from it, at total maturity. The golden age of a footballer is from 26 to 27. Plenty of Saint Etienne players have not yet reached it.

"So there will be individual and collective progress; it is inevitable. So if our present performances seem a little too good to be true, we have the means amply to justify them in the years to come and undoubtedly to improve them. The best Saint Etienne will be seen in three or four years."

Controversial

What you will, I am sure, have noticed is not only that Saint Etienne have played much splendid football this season on the way to their semi-final clashes with Bayern (it might have suited them better for the second rather than the first leg to have been at home, as in the two previous rounds!) but that their morale has been astonishing.

They came back from a thumping 4-1 defeat in Split to thrash Hajduk 5-1 after extra time in France, while in Chorzow they were three goals down to a Ruch side playing brilliantly, pulled two of those back, then won the return 2-0. A tribute, this, to what Roby Herbin has done.

Roger Rocher, the forceful, controversial, endlessly pipe smoking President of Saint Etienne has certainly had the better of his many critics, who have stigmatised him for such eventualities as the going of Albert Batteux, a famous manager, the quarrel with Salif Keita, the Malian centre-forward now playing for Valencia, the selling of Georges Berneta at so crucial and delicate a moment. There were even those who perhaps blamed him, in 1971, for his outraged dropping of Carnus and Bosquier, when it was learned that they had signed during the actual season for Olympique Marseille; an action which almost certainly cost Saint Etienne that season's Championship.

Excellent player

Now, I am happy to report, M. Rocher has come out strongly in defence of a former, distinguished Saint Etienne player and manager, Jean Snella, sacked by Nice and cruelly criticised by his ex-Chairman, M. Loeuillet. According to Loeuillet, it is all Snella's fault that Nice have been having such a bad time of it in the League. Snella joined Saint Etienne in 1939 as an excellent player, won them their first Championship in 1957. M. Rocher says that when M. Loeuillet came to him originally and asked if he should hire him from Servette, the Geneva club, M. Rocher replied that this was a manager who required time and patience, that his work was done over a period of years, building solidly from the foundations. But down on the Côte d'Azur, it seems, patience is lacking.

Still, if Loeuillet is putting all the blame on Snella for the moment, at least it will give a little peace and leeway to his successor, the former Yugoslavian international centre-half, Markovic.

Farther along the coast, at Marseille, things have improved out of all knowledge since the arrival of Berreta, which in turn seems to have galvanised the two Brazilian internationals, Jairzinho and Paulo Cesar. A lesser player whose light, however, has begun to burn quite brightly is the 23-year-old stopper, Victor Zvunka, Lorraine born and brother of the present manager, Jules, formerly the club's stopper himself.

Hitherto inclined to be impetuous and over physical, the younger Zvunka is settling down to be a versatile, resourceful, sometimes most enterprising centre-back. His brother must be particularly pleased; and relieved.

Impending arrival

Nantes in the meanwhile found waiting for Gadocha a little bit like waiting for Godot. His impending arrival meant that they had too many foreigners, so they managed to naturalise the Argentinian forward, Marcos—who seems if anything much less popular with the crowd since that happened—lent Curioni to Metz, and packed the Argentinian World Cup defender Bargas, such a star last season, off for a cure in the mountains. I hope they ultimately find Gadocha has been worth it.

Nigel Page-Jones, the only Englishman in the French Championship, is having another sound season with Brest, now at left-back, now in midfield, but a 5-1 avalanche in the return 1/16th round Cup tie at Lens saw to it that there'll be no repetition of Brest's achievements a few years ago, when Page-Jones had such a notable game against Roger Magnusson and Olympique Marseille. Nor, alas, have Brest any hope of better than a mid-table place in their section of the Second Division; where in fact they seem happy to stay.

Poor results

POLAND 7, USA 0

FIELDING all but three of their World Cup squad, the Poles cantered to victory against a team which has provided opposition for them on numerous occasions in the past couple of years and has even recorded a win over them in the States. This time they had no answer to Poland's polish and goals flowed easily.

Grzegorz Lato, who was top scorer in the World Cup with seven goals, opened the scoring in the 12th minute and seven minutes later Andrzej Szarmach made it two. Kazimierz Deyna, their captain, added number three after 32 minutes and two minutes before the interval Szarmach scored his second.

In the second half Deyna completed his hat-trick and Lato scored another himself before a crowd of 15,000 in Posen.

Poland: Kazwecki; Szymanowski, Gorgon, Zmuda, Wazwazcki, Jakubczak, Deyna, Kasperczak, Lato, Szarmach, Kmiecik.

LUXEMBOURG 1, AUSTRIA 2

AUSTRIA recovered from the shock of losing a 12th minute goal to Nico Braun to beat Luxembourg 2-1. The second half substitution of Helmut Koglberger brought some life and purpose to the Austrian side and he equalised in the 76th minute.

Luxembourg, who in their last home international were beaten 8-1 by a Belgian 'B' side, played under the handicap of fielding six amateurs along with their five professionals in exile.

The position in Group Two is that Wales and Austria are top with four points each though the Austrians have a game in hand. Hungary are third and Luxembourg bottom without a point.

Luxembourg: Moes; Fandel, Pilot, Hansen, Marque, Trierweiler, Philipp, Zuang, Zender (Gerres), Dussier, Braun.

Austria: Konzilia; Eigenstiller, Pajenk, Hof, Prohaska, Hickersberger, Hattenberger (Koglberger, Gombasch, Stering, Weizl, Krankl.

TURKEY 1, RUMANIA 1

A CROWD of 40,000 in Istanbul saw Rumania draw 1-1 with Turkey; a good result for them in terms of playing away of course.

Cemil gave the Turks the lead after four minutes and Lucescu equalised shortly afterwards.

Turkey: Yasin (Sabri); Alpaslan, Ismail, Ziya, Sekerya, Mehmet, Rashid, Kemal, Metin, Cemil (Sinan), Cetin.

Rumania: Raducanu; Cheran, Sandu Gabriel, Samos, Anghelini, Dumitru, Dinu, Jordanescu (Dudu Georgescu), Crisan (Troi), Kun Lucescu.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND 1, WEST GERMANY B 0

A GOAL by Jimmy Conway the Fulham forward who came on as a substitute in the 65th minute, settled this game in the last minute and gave Eire a deserved victory over a W German B selection.

Eire: Roche; Kinnear, Martin, Hand, D Campbell (Conway), Daly, Brady, Treacy, H way, Givens.

West Germany B: Kargus; Kaltz, Zimmer Kliemann, Konopka, Seel, Beer, Nickel, Pi Muller, Keller.

ENGLAND 2, WEST GERMANY

ENGLAND celebrated the 1 international at Wembley in f of 100,000 spectators by beating World Cup holders West Germany

Goals by Colin Bell after 25 mi and Malcolm Macdonald with a header from Alan Ball's cross afte minutes gave England a deserved vi over a disappointing German side.

The Germans for whom this was 400th international lacked urgency penetration and sadly missed their a stars like Muller, Overath and Gra ski who have retired from internat football.

England gave first caps to Steve worth and Ian Gillard at full-back to Alan Hudson in midfield, but j ment would have to be reserved on because of the performance of opposition.

England: Clemence; Whitworth, Watson, Gillard, Ball, Bell, Hudson, Channon, donald, Keegan.

West Germany: Maier; Bonhof, Beckenbauer, Vogts, Callmann, Fichr, W (Helmut Kremers), Rischel, Kostedde (Hey Holzenbein.

GETHING SUPREM

from VERNON WOODS in South Afri

GOALKEEPER, 38-year-old Trevor Gething, is the longest-serving Springbok sportsman of all time. He first played for South Africa at 19 years of age on a tour of the United Kingdom, Holland and Portugal and is still going strong nearly 20 years later in the hurly-burly of South Africa's tough and widespread National Football League.

The pattern with most players in the higher brackets is very familiar — national or provincial representation while the glamour lasts but rarely in circulation when the plaudits fall upon others.

However, Trevor George Gething, like Father Time, just keeps going and may well be still playing top division football ten years hence.

In cold figures, Pretoria-born Gething has made over 500 first division appearances as a professional player, of which 378 were for last season's triple title champions Arcadia Shepherds, 113 with Berea Park and the balance with Highlands Park.

To be noted is that the 15-team National Football League is confined to part-time professional squads. Thus a player is more occupied with full-time civilian employment and the two opposite points of the league stretch to over 1,000 miles. All inter-match provincial travel is air-borne.

Graceful

With no thought of retiring as an active player the "Black Panther" of South African soccer as he is known seems destined to set up an endurance record with few equals. The sobriquet arises from his wearing of an all-dark strip combined with his graceful leaps for the ball.

Trevor started senior club soccer at 14 years of age with Berea Park of Pretoria, but without a regular game, transferred to near-neighbours Arcadia Shepherds. He later represented South Africa but as a professional against Tottenham Hotspur, the then European Club Champions, and Atletico Cerro of Uruguay, both during 1963.

The following season he wore his country's colours against the famous Real Madrid of Spain and Arsenal of England on their short tours of Africa. He has played in nu games for Northern Transvaa Combined Transvaal against int Leicester City of England and Ei of Frankfurt, West Germany.

In 1965 and again in 1966 he c Castle Cup Final medals on the end against Highlands Park.

Gething returned to his firs Berea Park, in the 1972 season a largely instrumental in lifting average team to third position National Log and winning the Cup over Durban City. At the that season Trevor won, by vote, the coveted "Sunday I Footballer of the Year award,

Vernon Bosch, another Arca have represented South Africa a has this to say about Gething: played some outstandingly games for his club, his province country. I rate him alongside Riley of Boksburg and Liverpo greatest goalkeeper we have p

● Continued o

for Hungary

International Post-Mortem by JACK ROLLIN

FRANCE 2, HUNGARY 0

FRANCE celebrated their first victory over Hungary for 40 years in Paris before a crowd of 25,000 at the Parc des Princes, which is to be this year's venue for the European Cup Final.

Goals in the second half by Henri Michel and substitute Patrick Parizon sent the Parisien partisans home happy. But they had to wait until the 56th minute before the first goal against a stubborn Hungarian defence and the second seven minutes later soon after Parizon had come on for Herve Revelli.

Much of the interest concerning the game centred on the pitch itself which has been heavily criticised for the way it cuts up. But officials and players expressed the feeling that though greasy and with a lot of give it was far better than at any previous time this year.

France: Cherrier; Lopez (Merchadier), Zeunka, Tresor, Bracci, Hack (Page), Michel, Guillou, Triantafilos, Herve Revelli (Parizon), Bereta.
Hungary: Mesaros; Kelar, Ede Dunai, Horvath, Toth (J), Balint, Kocsis, Pintar, Fazekas, Bene, L. Nagy (Gass).

EAST GERMANY 0, BULGARIA 0

A SMALL crowd of 15,000 braved the elements in East Berlin to see a goalless draw.

The first half an hour was played in a driving snowstorm and the heavy conditions gave little scope for attractive football.

After the weather improved slightly neither side was able to show any spark of flair in attack to turn the opposing defences. The result was good for Bulgaria but the East Germans continue to search desperately for the imaginative play which took them to the World Cup finals last year.

East Germany: Croy; Kische, Weise, Zapf, Branach (Waetlich), Pommerenke, Dorner (Tyll), Kurbjuweit, Hoffmann, Riediger, Vogel (Streich).
Bulgaria: Filipov; Zafirov (Sonio Vassilev), Rangelov, Marev, Eftimov, Angelov, Isakidis, Kolev (Dimitrov), Vojnov (Mladen Vassilev), Goranov, Kurbanov.

AUSTRIA 0, HUNGARY 0

AUSTRIA were held at home by their near neighbours and greatest rivals Hungary in this European Championship match.

Before a capacity crowd of 70,000 the Austrians began aggressively and shots from home star Hans Krankl and newly capped Alfred Riedl brought diving saves from the Hungarian goalkeeper.

Hungary relied on a twin spearhead of veteran Bene and Branikovits but though they fought back with spirit they rarely looked like scoring themselves. Still they had the outstanding midfield player on view in Kocsis, but when his efforts came to nothing the visitors decided to close the game up in the second half and play for a draw.

Austria: Koncilia; Eigenstiller, Winklbauer, Obermayer, Strasser, Hattenberger, Kreuz, Prohaska, Kogleberger (Pirkner), Krankl, Riedl.
Hungary: Mesaros; J. Toth, Balint, Horvath, Tornk, A. Toth (Pintar), J. Nagy, Kocsis, Csabo, Branikovits (Fekete), Bene.

USSR 3, TURKEY 0

THE Russians took the rather unusual measure of fielding the entire Kiev Dynamo team in a bid to revive their flagging fortunes in international football, But the three clear goal margin flattered them.

Two of the Russian goals came from penalties converted by skipper Victor Kolotov in the 25th and 56th minutes. Goal number three came in the quarter of the second half when the First Division's leading marksman Oleg Blokhin scored from close range after a mix up in the shaky and weak Turkish defence. The Soviet forwards missed a number of chances during the game.

The victory still left the Russians in third place behind the Republic of Ireland and the Turks.

● Continued on page 48

THE National Football League season has been under way since late January when competition winners of the previous season — Maritzburg, Highlands Park, Hellenic and the triple title holders Arcadia Shepherds — settled the Champion of Champions for 1974 in favour of Hellenic of Cape Town. But a three-months break and changed line-ups gives this competition a hollow ring.

The South African Soccer Calendar of nine months' duration has become overloaded matchwise with six commercially sponsored competitions — prize-money totalling the equivalent of £87,500.

A preference, since the middle sixties, for foreign players has been changed by legislation whereby the local content must be increased gradually until the optimum is reached after seven years.

The multi-national Champion of Champions Tournament being run on an inter-club team basis for the first time, features Arcadia Shepherds and Hellenic (white population group), Aces United and Bluff Rangers (Indian blood), Claremont United and Blackpool United (coloured or mixed blood group) and Kaiser Chiefs and Orlando Pirates (black-skinned or Bantu section). Drawing capacity crowds of all races the new deal is generally regarded as a breakthrough for South African soccer that will hopefully lead to the lifting of the suspension by FIFA since 1964.

Arcadia Shepherds, Berea Park, Germiston Callies, Highlands Park, Jewish Guild, Lusitano and Rangers (from the Transvaal province); Durban City, Durban United, Celtic, Maritzburg and Shamrocks (from Natal) plus Cape Town City, East London United and Hellenic (of Cape province) constitute the premier professional league with major playing venues at the Rand Stadium (Johannesburg), New Kingsmead (Durban) and Hartleyvale (Cape Town). Travel between the provinces is entirely by jet flight.

Compensation

With the introduction of TV due shortly it is known that the NFL may well give the thumbs down to viewing of its games — unless adequately compensated for the expected loss of revenue through the turnstiles.

The newly formed SA Soccer Coaches' Association is chaired by Eddie Lewis, formerly of Manchester United. Ed is a great hit in South Africa and along with Alec Forbes (ex-Arsenal and Scotland) coach the strong black sides, Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates.

Goal average has been replaced by goal difference — without any noticeable sighs of satisfaction.

The first shock previews of Michael Parkinson's book — "Best — An Intimate Biography" suggest that it will be banned by the South African Government which does not take kindly to literature containing lower-deck language with its four-letter words. The local interest in Best arises from his visit here last season when he was paid the equivalent of £10,000 plus subsistence for three match appearances. Playboy George did not have a good Press despite drawing big crowds.

Latest NFL Table — Germiston Callies, 7, 4, 3, 0, 14, 6, 11; Highlands Park 7, 4, 3, 0, 14, 6, 11; Shamrocks 7, 3, 4, 0, 13, 7, 10; Jewish Guild 8, 4, 2, 2, 12, 9, 10; Durban United 9, 2, 5, 2, 10, 8, 9; Berea Park 8, 1, 6, 1, 8, 9, 8; Rangers 8, 2, 3, 3, 10, 10, 7; Cape Town City 7, 2, 3, 2, 9, 9, 7; Lusitano 8, 1, 4, 3, 14, 17, 6; Maritzburg 3, 2, 1, 0, 7, 4, 5; Durban City 5, 1, 3, 1, 4, 6, 5; Celtic 8, 2, 1, 5, 7, 17, 5; Arcadia Shepherds 5, 1, 1, 3, 5, 8, 3; Hellenic 5, 0, 3, 2, 3, 5, 3; East London United 7, 0, 2, 5, 5, 14, 2.

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

Wembley game was a trial as Germans experimented

WEST GERMANY'S largely experimental national team suffered its first defeat since becoming world champions, last July, but the 0-2 slump against England was not taken tragically, neither by the press nor by the fans. After all, only five members of the World Cup winning side were on duty at Wembley. The match was billed in Germany as a trial, before the vital European Championship qualifying tie versus Bulgaria in Sofia, on April 27.

Although games against England always carry a lot of prestige, it is abundantly clear, that had this been a competitive match, manager Helmut Schön would not have indulged in these experiments:

1. Midfielder Rainer Bonhof played for the first time in the national side as a full back.

2. Karl-Heinz Körbel, at 20 the youngest player on the pitch, was given a further chance and only his second cap at centre back, to the exclusion of the trusted Schwarzenbeck, who is normally the "Vorstopper", detailed to take care of the opposing central striker.

Midfield

3. Manfred Ritschel, at 28, made his international début at outside right, although he spent most of the season playing full back for his club Kickers Offenbach. Only occasionally was he moved to midfield.

4. Erwin Kostedde was making only his second appearance in the national side, having previously, like Körbel, only played in Malta. He would not have been picked for a competitive match on such a heavy pitch as there was at Wembley.

5. The German forward line had never played in this formation before, and their collective as well as individual failure, put the pressure on their defence, where Körbel is a novice and Bonhof was played out of position.

Ignoring the fact that both goals were "flukey", (the first a rebound off Körbel, wrong-footing Maier—the second from a floated cross, hopelessly misjudged by the goalkeeper) England fully deserved to win, but the secret of their success can really be expressed in one word: Motivation. For nine years, and in four internationals, England could not beat the West Germans. Now the incentive to gain revenge was even greater, since Germany came here as the world champions.

The events at Wembley only temporarily overshadowed the exciting battles for domestic honours. *Bundesliga* leaders Borussia Mönchengladbach were fighting hard during March and April to preserve their position. Behind them, like a pack of snapping wolves, came Hertha Berlin, Hamburger SV, Kickers Offenbach, Eintracht Frankfurt and Cologne, all in close attendance.

Two bizarre stories have occupied a lot of space on the sports pages of the German papers. The first concerned the proposed engagement by Schalke of the famous Brazilian full back Francisco Marinho, who had made such an impact in the World Cup with his flair and attacking style.

This 23-year-old star from FC Botafogo was invited to come over to Gelsenkirchen, whilst negotiations began by post, regarding the size of the transfer fee. Schalke's president Günter Siebert was prepared to pay 1 million Marks (£183,000). Meanwhile Marinho was introduced to the fans, and specifically to the 70,000 crowd which turned out for the visit of Bayern Munich.

The supporters were to decide by ballot whether the Brazilian should be bought! The idea was to slap a surcharge on future admission prices, to offset the cost of his transfer! But the club did not wait for the result of the ballot. The administrative committee decided by five votes against none, that it wasn't in the interests of Schalke to engage Marinho. Apparently he demanded a basic salary of over £43,000 a year (without counting bonuses!), and this the committee felt was too much for a defender.

Incidentally, with the exception of some 450 ballot sheets, the remainder, that is nearly 70,000, had mysteriously disappeared from the club's offices! And so no one will ever know how the Schalke fans really voted!

The other story, relating to Bayern Munich's new coach Dettmar Cramer, is equally shrouded in perplexity. When Cramer abandoned his post of manager to the U.S. national team, he claimed that he never actually signed a contract with the American Federation. Bayern accepted his version, but now a firm of lawyers representing the U.S. Soccer Association have presented the club with a demand for 200,000 D.Marks (£33,000) as compensation for breach of contract!

It seems that some form of agreement, possibly written, was concluded between Cramer and the Americans. And now Bayern have been upset and only after a discussion lasting several hours was a statement issued to the effect, that Cramer will remain with the club! Incredibly, though, Bayern's technical manager Robert Schwan persuaded Cramer to sign a three-year contract, but one of the clauses reserves for the club the right to give the coach only six weeks notice!

Clearly, the directors of the German champions has invented a new measure of time: How to reduce a three-year span into a mere six weeks . . .

● *Continued from page 26*

His handling is always superb, his positional play top-class and distribution of the ball, an object-lesson to all aspirant goalkeepers."

South Africa has never been short of top-class goalkeepers — Arthur Riley, Aubrey Mandy of Brakpan, Lou Clayton of Johannesburg and Ben van Vuuren of Germiston.

Reg Wright, himself a great goalkeeper for South Africa told me: "Trevor Gething had no equal as a goalkeeper in this country."

An absence of NFL club honours is in some ways a testimony of Gething's greatness. At different times he was and still is wanted by every club in the land but he chooses to remain loyal to the Transvaal.

"Soccer has been the very breath of life to me," said Gething as we chatted over his long career. "Guarding the target against every forward of note, the question naturally asked of me time and time again is . . . just which player had the hardest shot in our soccer? Well, I must stress Les Salton of Durban who notched 294 goals in five seasons before he retired in 1964."

Another that worried Gething was Dan le Roux (132 goals), a former Arsenal winger whose shot literally carried Gething to the back of the net. And then there was sharpshooter Freddie Kalk (250 goals) who "packed the kick of a mule". Gething continued: "I never really faced Babil Johnson (126 goals). Ironically we both played for Arcadia for whom he won many games with his opportunistic goalgrabbing."

Gething has been no angel on the field. This he admits. His lively temperament often produced lively action. Often he has been at variance with referees as he settled accounts his way.

Gething has not only saved many a game under the posts — he has also won them through the opposite posts in his role as penalty-taker.

Incentive for success

Club Focus on ROYAL ANTWERP by Chris Rhys

PRESTIGE and rewards in European competitions are always high, but no club can surely have greater incentive for 1975-6 than the oldest club in Belgium, Royal Antwerp. The goal disallowed by German referee Herr Weyland, scored by Alfred Reidl, near the end of a fiercely competitive 2nd round UEFA cup match, which gave Ajax of Amsterdam the tie on the away goals decision, has been the subject of controversy since last November. Though television re-runs could find no fault, the result was allowed to stand and Ajax, adjudged to have only lost 2-1, progressed into the next round, having won 1-0 beforehand at home.

Although there was mention of soccer played at the Athletic Association La Gantoise in Brussels in 1864, Royal Antwerp, founded in 1880, are accepted as their country's oldest club. The Belgian League was founded in 1895, with ten clubs, and up until 1968, when they were relegated, were continuous members of the 1st Division and the longest survivors. They returned in 1970 and in 1973-4 were runners-up. The club have won the championship four times, in 1928-9, 1930-1, 1943-4, and 1956-7. In 1955 came their sole Belgian Cup success.

Capped

This season has seen Antwerp fighting to retain their right to qualify for European competitions, disputing the UEFA Cup places behind RWDM and Anderlecht, in a little group consisting of Standard Liege, FC Bruges, Lierse and city neighbours Beerschot. They are also in the cup semi-finals.

The club has eight internationals on its books, of whom one, Ove Eklund, with ten Swedish caps, and a member of his country's World Cup 40 squad for 1974, is now on loan to French Division One club Stade Rheims. The goalkeeper is the 11 times capped, ex-Anderlecht player, Jean Trappeniers, who is now 33, and played in the Fairs Cup Final of 1969-70 v Arsenal. Paul Hofman (31) from Puurs is his experienced replacement.

The back four are Jos van Reil (32), at right-back, whilst his partner on the other flank is the Royal Antwerp captain, Xavier Caers (24). The centre-back is the highly-rated Jos Velser (26), and the *libero* is Robert Geens, who is a 28-year-old part-timer. The club are fortunate in having in reserve for the defensive positions, Louis Pilot (34), the Luxembourg international, who has played in the current European Championship against Wales, and who has 40 caps.

Pilot has also occupied the midfield positions, whilst "B" international Rene De Saeyere (27) was suspended after being sent off against Ajax. Currently Antwerp prefer John de Schrijver (27) from the third Antwerp side, Berschem, and Herman Houben, ex-Diest, also 27, to once capped Belgian international, Jos Heyligen, from Beerschot, and Frans Vermeyen, who has been capped six times, but is now 32.

Headaches

The front three cause no headaches. All are internationals — Flemming Lund, signed from BK Copenhagen in 1972, eight caps, and almost certain to play for Denmark against Scotland in their European Championship group. Karl Kodat (31), nine years older than Lund, has played five times for Austria, and joined Antwerp from Austria Salzburg four years ago. He has scored 16 goals, which is six less than his colleague, Alfred Reidl (25), who at present leads the Belgian League scoring lists. Reidl is in his first season at Antwerp, whom he joined from St Trond, and FK Austria of Vienna. His efforts this season have been rewarded with his first cap this Easter for Austria in the 0-0 draw with Hungary. The form of the attack leaves few opportunities for Frans Cools (19), August Wilmssen (25), and Louis Van Gaal (23), ex-Ajax.

Guy Thys (53), the former Standard Liege international player is the trainer, and was formerly with Union St Galloise, bringing Trappeniers with him after the goalkeeper had joined Union from Anderlecht.

Cramped

Royal Antwerp's present stadium was built on English lines in 1922, a better edition of the 1920 Olympic stadium where rivals Beerschot play. The opening match at the 60,000 capacity ground was suitably against England, where in November 1923 the Belgians secured a 2-2 draw. The next international is against Holland on April 30.

The key to Antwerp's European chances could, ironically, lie with Beerschot. Handily placed themselves; trained by Rik Coppens, who counts amongst his 47 caps, one, and a goal, v England in the 4-4 1954 World Cup scoreline, and Emmanuel Sanon, the Haitian striker who broke the Italian defence in the last World Cup, on their books; they receive a couple of the leading teams in their cramped little Olympic Stadium.

Antwerp, on the other hand, have four home matches and two of their three away games against relegation threatened teams, to avenge Ajax, and to improve a record of only three wins in Europe since 1958.

Scoop purchase of a bargain offer book, "A Mini Encyclopaedia of Soccer". Entitled "THE FOOTBALL INDUSTRY". Covers every facet of the game from amateur to professional. The most comprehensive book of its kind yet written. Contains in depth articles on Martin Peters, Rodney Marsh, Kevin Keegan plus all the leading managers. This important football reference book is being offered at the reduced price of £1.20 post free. 2 copies sent for £2 post free.

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UNITED

GLAD to have them back! That's the unanimous welcome England's First Division clubs are today giving to Manchester United as the famous Old Trafford outfit gladly says goodbye to the Second Division, and begins planning for a new future among old friends.

Going down was a terrific blow to the pride of the former European Cup winners. Especially after having juggled with their managership so dramatically in a desperate bid for new triumphs and avoiding the big drop.

Someone said relegation could be a good thing for a club which had generously tasted the heady wine of success. That was correct. Because the dive not only forced a quick change of thought and approach to problems, but also the complete rebuilding of the staff.

Cash was the first worry. The board wondered how they might fare in a lower echelon which meant that instead of Arsenal, Spurs, Everton, Wolves, Chelsea, Newcastle, Leeds, Liverpool, and other top-liners providing the star attractions there would be only Orient, York, Millwall, Notts County, Bristol Rovers and so on.

Everybody got ready to trim expenses in early anticipation of falling receipts. But more than a million enthusiasts rolled up for just the ordinary bread-and-butter stuff of the league. Another 300,000 went there for cup-ties. Altogether, the 'gate' this winter has averaged around 48,500!

Never in the long history of that particular division has there been such fantastic support. That's one of the big reasons why the team led all the way. The multitudes were behind them from the very first kick-off.

The fans provided the necessary for paying off a £300,000 overdraft, which the failures of the First Division had accumulated in transfer market ventures. Additionally, they met a £400-a-week jackpot, and an end-of-season bonus of £30,000 for the game's top paid players.

Honours

Thomas Henderson Docherty knows all about that. The former Scottish, Preston and Arsenal wing-half star of the 50's, has graduated with honours in management after having had mixed experiences at such places as Walham Green, Millmoor and Shepherd's Bush.

This highly volatile character and newspaperman's delight, first trod care-

Maitland could be number one

DON Revie is quite rightly eager to expand the national squad, and, in pursuance of that praiseworthy idea, is compiling an ever-lengthening list of likely candidates for team spots in the long years ahead.

The England boss, determined to deal himself the right cards for maintaining new build-ups, is now busily assembling road maps for time-saving trips between the Tyne, Humber, Mersey, Trent and Thames.

There's no doubt that this six-footer who wrote his name in letters of gold with the famous deep-lying centre-forward plan of the 50's, is certainly haring after the youngsters, and turning up most unexpectedly wherever they can be found.

So here am I, stepping in to assist. We've had our disagreements at differing levels of the game over three decades, yet always stayed firm friends, and because of that I am today tipping him about an unknown down the ladder.

The name's Lloyd Curtis Maitland, an unusual name for a start. He's just seventeen. And one of his greatest ambitions is to be the first coloured feller to play for England, at Wembley. No less.

Now, that's a nice height to aim when you've not been left school very long. Additionally, if the target is reached at some future date, Huddersfield Town will be in their seventh Heaven, and Aston Villa down in the dumps.

How come. Because this teenager with the thin beginnings of a George Hardwick moustache, and an early playing style reminiscent of the great wingers who lost favour with Ramsey, hails from Birmingham, and could have joined the Villans. But he recognised there were too many schoolboy hopefuls queueing at Aston Cross, and better opportunities up in Yorkshire.

Spectacles

That's nearly always been the case in the West Riding. Especially at Leeds Road, where they had some of the pre-war greatest in Billy Smith, Alec Jackson, Sam Wadsworth, Clem Stephenson, Bob Kelly, Roy Goodall and George Brown.

Then, of course, and more recently, there was that top flight artist Denis Law, who threw away his spectacles on maturing, and still never tires of telling me what a great outfit it was under Bill Shankly.

● *Continued from page 15*

Seeler, and thus at a stroke he lost his position of "Spielfuhrer", or "Kapitän", and missed the decisive stages of the European Championship. Including of course the ultimate triumph of West Germany, who beat Russia by 3-0 to clinch the trophy and in which Netzer was of course acclaimed as one of the heroes.

Overath missed seven successive internationals and then the widely publicised controversy surrounding the choice between him and Netzer began to rage in Germany. But Overath returned to the side in February 1973 (v. Argentina) and stayed there exactly a year, before another injury caused him to drop out of a further three internationals, just before the World Cup final series.

Through sheer hard work and determination he fought his way into the national team. And once again manager Schon considered himself lucky to be able to use Overath as his chief orchestrator. His greatest triumph came on July 7, 1974. In the Olympic stadium in Munich, Wolfgang Overath became one of the newly crowned champions of the world.

Despite his fame and the adulation he receives, Overath has remained basically a modest and unassuming individual. When I acted as an interpreter for Brian Moore, on behalf of ITV last year, and mentioned that he will receive a reward for the interview, Overath replied with a disarming smile:" "That's all right, I would have done it for nothing"!

RETURN!

fully in the steps of Busby, McGuinness and O'Farrell. Then he gave the stands and terraces a new team to love or hate and, of course, they quickly began cheering a very efficient and sometimes autocratic winner.

He said at the start of this season: "I'm setting a 60pt target for my boys, though I really can't see any particular team streaking away from the rest." He said at the finish, when wisely refusing to individualise: "The team's done well, always remembering that these days it's a 12-man game."

That's what has caused odd spots of bother now and again. For instance, Scottish 'cap' and club skipper Willie Morgan had to be dropped in favour of new-boy Steve Coppell, while other established players also lost out to youngsters occasionally.

But the team was always well disciplined. As far back as last August, they were told they would be fined for any flagrant dissent on the pitch, and the club was going to back referees. Which it did.

Prospect

Coppell, at 18 is perhaps United's brightest young prospect. He is also one of the cheapest among many expensive products, having cost a mere £40,000 when signed from Tranmere Rovers a couple of months ago, and he had a fairytale debut, scheming two goals in borrowed boots.

Better-known of the men who have played big parts in taking the club back at the first attempt are Alex Stepney, the former Chelsea goalkeeper, Alex Forsyth (Partick), Jim Holton (Shrewsbury), Martin Buchan (Aberdeen), Lou Macari (Celtic), Willie Morgan (Burnley), Stuart Pearson (Hull City), and spot-kick king Gerry Daly (Bohemians).

One of the most remarkable features of a tremendous march forward has been their wonderful consistency. Getting away at the start with four successive victories they were only beaten three times before Christmas, and went on their way rejoicing except for one poor period in February.

It's a team with a scoring trick as you'll recognise by the fact that no fewer than nine of the boys have got among the goals—which Tommy Docherty regards with special pleasure as he considers First Division defences.

ERIC THORNTON'S SOCCER NOTEBOOK

Well, now, between the rainbows Town have once more discovered that extremely rare jewel of a footballer—a scoring winger with footwork to match his speed, and a spot of cheekiness to further mark him up as a special prospect.

These are the early formative years. The period when, one day, this teenager can be seen belting along the line for the seniors, and 24 hours later concentrating every effort on behalf of the youth line-up.

It matters not to Lloyd. He is so much in love with football that he simply cannot have too much of it. A game a day may be the ideal, though two are better for his appetite. And any extra in the week provide a treat.

The toughened fans on the massive terraced areas below the frowning hillsides of the Pennines are warming to the boy after so many years of storm clouds. And, like Law at the same age, the newcomer loves them, particularly when they cheer.

Managers who have seen Lloyd in the early outings are enthusiastic. After he'd played against John Sillett's Hereford, the former Chelsea defender praised the boy's ball control and powerful crosses.

His Dad, who was a Jamaican cricket fan before arriving in England, isn't too sure. For once when he went to a game as the guest of the club it seemed a bit of a mix up. He said to his son afterwards: "I'm not really certain how you played because there was also a coloured boy on the other side and I kept wondering which was you."

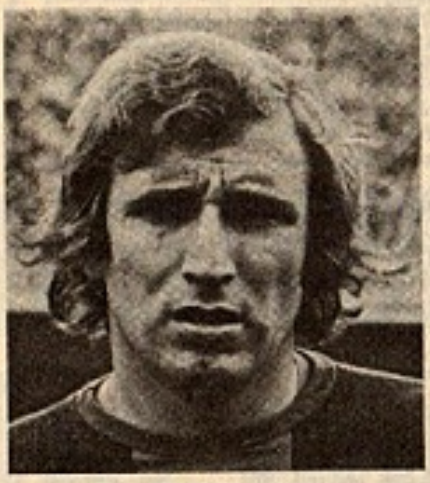
Fortunately, the boy has developed a thick skin, and this usually helps when some fans try annoying him with tricky comments. There were some of those at a Youth Cup game at Goodison. But he won the day.

For, as Lloyd said: "We won, and when the match was over I bowed to the crowd, and that got them annoyed for a change."

Manchester United's Gerry Daly (left) steers the ball through a packed penalty area and past Fulham goalkeeper Peter Mellor to give his side a 1-0 victory at Old Trafford.

ESPANOL LAG
GOAL PUN

News from Spain ...by KEIR



Rexach of Barcelona.

BIGGEST disappointment this season has been the failure of Espanol, the other Barcelona team, to fulfil their promise.

Jose Santamaria, 46-year-old former Nacional, Real Madrid, Uruguay and Spain stopper, turned Espanol into early leaders this season, but lack of punch means that they're now fourth, with thoughts of the UEFA Cup rather than the Champions' Cup.

The biggest problem has been lack of a goalscorer. After 27 games Espanol had scored exactly 27 goals! The summer sale of Roberto Martinez to Madrid, though it delighted the bank manager, did little for the fans.

Last summer Espanol were rumoured to be in the hunt for Sweden's Ralf Edstroem (PSV Eindhoven), but his excellent World Cup form put his value way out of reach. Now, I gather, Betis of Seville would like the tall Swede. I've no doubt Hartlepool would as well—and they've just as much chance of signing him!

Betis have also been linked with Benfica winger Jordao, but then, with the league race settled (the league is dead, long live the league), this is rumours season.

Betis at least ended one tenor of speculation by signing Murcia's Juan Antonio Garcia Soriano from under the noses of several clubs—Atletico Madrid included.

Twist

Betis paid £100,000 for the international right winger but he continues with Murcia until the season's end. One neat twist to the story—the transfer was completed on a Tuesday and the following Sunday Murcia were due to play Betis. Garcia Soriano missed the game (a 0-0 draw) though.

"Injured," said coach Ferenc Puskas,

Spain get ready

THE row over Argentina's ability—or inability—to stage the 1978 World Cup set Spain buzzing at the thought that they might be chosen as substitute if the South Americans were ruled out of order by FIFA.

Since Spain are confirmed for 1982 it seemed a good idea. Now, after a remarkable squabble between the clubs, the federation and the national team boss Laszy Kubala, some people are wondering whether Spain can get organised for 1982 even.

The problem goes back to January last year when the Kubala policy of taking the national team all around the country happened to light on Vigo for a friendly against Holland.

The game was cancelled with a few weeks to go, and Vigo have been waiting for their international ever since. Voices within the federation (the FEF) suggested that the Estadio Balaidos should be used for the important European Championship clash with Rumania last month and the Vigo officials grew very excited.

Then, with six weeks to go to the big day, the FEF announced that the game would be switched to Real Madrid's Chamartin. Celta de Vigo were more than a little annoyed, and even more upset when it came to light that the federation had changed their minds on the advice of Kubala.

"We're going to need a big ground with a big crowd right behind us for this match," he told FEF president Jose Luis Perezpaya. And with the national team leading the group the chances of a 70-80,000 crowd were clearly on.

"Perhaps Vigo ought to get the Cup Final," someone said. In vain. But Madrid won't get the Final either—Coruna has been chosen.

A most peculiar choice you may think, until you realise that Head of State Franco always, but always, presents the Copa del Generalisimo and has a summer villa near Coruna where he goes when he needs to rest. And that is pretty often nowadays.

Going to Spain for your holidays? Perhaps these dates might be of interest. August 8, 9 and 10: The Trofeo Teresa Herrera international quadrangular club tournament is due to take place in Coruna. Penarol seem certain to take part, with Real Madrid probable. The organisers also want Leeds and the fourth club will be East European—maybe Red Star or Ferencvaros. But whoever takes part, this is generally the best of the Spanish summer tournaments.

(Last week in August (exact dates later) Torneo Carranza in Cadiz. Zaragoza, Palmeiras and Dynamo Moscow all invited. Fourth team to be named.

Correction—not on my behalf, but on behalf of certain English journalists who would mislead you about some of the Barcelona players: (1) Gallego had never been a regular in the first team this season. (2) Albaladejo is not an international—that particular writer must have been thinking of the old French Rugby player. (3) Migueli was not born in Argentina, but in Ceuta, North Africa, which just happens to be Spanish.

CK NCH...

RADNEDGE

though this excuse was hardly necessary in a country where it is commonplace for clubs to transfer a player "on condition that he doesn't play against us for a year."

The FEF tried to outlaw such contract clauses a little while ago, but the clubs will always outwit the federation, and the federation know it.

And, while on the subject of outwitting the federation, all is quiet at the moment on the matter of the "foreigners who are," or, if you prefer, the "Spaniards who aren't." The case launched by Bilbao and San Sebastian has been bogged down—as we all knew it would be—in the courts and meanwhile Roberto goes on scoring for Madrid—even if he's contributing precious little else to their game these days.

Mention of Madrid brings me back to the subject of transfers and, more particularly, Gvnter Netzer. His two-year contract expires in June. Bayern Munich have been interested for some time, so have Schalke. But now that Paul Breitner is playing so superbly it's my hunch that Netzer will extend his control for at least another season and a crack at the Champions' Cup.

"If Madrid met Moenchengladbach now, we'd be sure to beat them," said Netzer after running the rule over his old club recently. And, with Borussia well placed to win the *Bundesliga*, I don't think he would be able to resist challenging them in Europe.

Youngsters

Just in case Netzer does go, though, Madrid have their eyes on the 20-year-old Las Palmas junior international, Pepe Juan. So have Barcelona . . .

Atletico Madrid, meanwhile, have picked up two youngsters—Antonio and Aguilar—from the third Madrid club, Rayo Vallencano, and hope that Ruben Ayala and Ramon Heredia will become naturalised so that they can sign two more foreigners.

They could also join Valencia in the market for Malaga goalkeeper Juan Antonio Deusto, second only to Jose Iribar in Laszy Kubala's estimation.

Barcelona wanted to sign Deusto last summer, but were turned down and may now ask Granada again about the Spanish-qualified Uruguayan star, Ladislao Mazurkiewicz. After a brief run in the first team, he lost his place because of injury.

Allan Clarke scores Leeds United's second goal against Barcelona.

Miljanic stays home

EVERY time I prepare to write about the Spanish scene, I think: "Is there something to overshadow Real Madrid—I led off with them last month." Invariably, there isn't. Good or bad, if it concerns Madrid, it's news. And some odd things have been going on lately.

Not in the league—unless you count the way Amancio flits in and out of the team and the continuing injury jinx on Pirri as peculiar. Madrid are 11 points clear, they have the two top scorers in the league—Santillana (14—thanks to a hat-trick against Celta) and Roberto Martinez (12), some excellent reserves and the best young discovery of the season in utility defender Antonio Camacho.

That seems straightforward—yet it was anything but when it came to the Cup Winners Cup quarter final against Red Star Belgrade.

Trainer Miljan Miljanic didn't go to spy on his old club—he sent his deputy, Antonio Ruiz (left half in the 1959 Champions' Cup Final) and PT man Srecko Radisic instead. Meanwhile, Madrid crushed Las Palmas 4-1. Amancio was the star—making two goals and being fouled as a prelude to a third; yet on the Wednesday against Red Star in Chamartin he was right out of touch.

The 80,000 fans starting calling, with a crowd's typically amnesiac cruelty, for his replacement and yet when Aguilar came on, they gave the veteran Real skipper a tremendous ovation as he left the field.

Madrid won 2-0 but went down by the same score in the Yugoslav Maracana before a 100,000 crowd (paying a record £140,000) and out 6-5 on penalties. But Miljanic wasn't there . . .

Aggregate score

He sat at home in front of his television set in Madrid, surrounded by journalists. "Of course I wanted to go to Belgrade, my mother and father live there," he said. "But I had a number of things to occupy me here and the club said I should stay."

'The club' turned out to be none other than Santiago Bernabeu himself. "Miljanic had things on his mind—I told him to stay," said the president. Mysterious business . . . Miljanic never relished the prospect of the duel with his old club but, as Madrid's fans angrily asked, what are we paying this man £70,000 a year for?

That the whole tie should then hinge not on ability or tactics but penalties was the ultimate irony. In the first leg Olja Petrovic blocked a Netzer penalty, but the West German followed up to score, and in the return it was goalkeeper Petrovic's turn, early in the second half, to net the spot kick which made the aggregate score 2-2.

Petrovic had the last word too in the sudden death contest. After Gregorio Benito blasted Madrid's sixth kick over the bar, Petrovic stopped Santillana's kick and Madrid were out.

And that after spending daily practice sessions taking penalties too! (Amancio, missing in Belgrade, was the star turn in training).

"I'd never taken a penalty in a match before in my life," admitted Benito afterwards. So, why was Manolo Velazquez, skipper for the night, standing by while Benito lost his nerve? Velazquez takes a pretty mean penalty, and, as captain, should have been prepared to set an example.

As if that wasn't bad enough, Madrid had to spend an extra night, camping out in their hotel in Belgrade because the Yugoslavs refused to let their Iberia airliner land!

In the end the weary Madridistas had to take a Yugoslav airlines flight to Budapest, change for Munich, change again for Barcelona, change again for home.

Perhaps it was a good thing they lost—had they won they might still be in Yugoslavia!

Keir Radnedge continues his review of the SPANISH SCENE

A point boosts lowly Malaga

TWO "firsts" recently. Malaga got their first away point of the season at the end of February against Gijon, thanks to Julio Orozco. It was only Malaga's second away goal of the season and Orozco, chucked out by Atletico Madrid after the coming of Ruben Ayala, had also got the other.

The other "first" was an opening goal in Spain by Sanny Aslund, the 24-year-old Swedish international who joined Espanol midway through the season. Aslund found adapting very difficult—particularly since he came straight in after a gruelling season in Sweden with AIK Stockholm.

His goal came against Elche, while neighbours CF Barcelona have also been relying on a mid-term signing for goals—Brazilian international centre-back Mario Marinho. He's scored four in League and European Cup games so far (as well as getting sent off in a 1-0 defeat at Las Palmas), including the solitary goal which was too much for Atletico in Nou Camp.

But even Marinho couldn't beat fellow South American Angel Miguel Santoro, former Independiente star, when Hercules of Alicante travelled up the coast; a stunned 80,000 crowd saw 33-year-old Santoro, virtually single-handed, hold CFB to a 0-0 draw.

Damage

A 0-0 draw was also Espanol's fate the following week—even Aslund's introduction as a second-half substitute couldn't alter that. The opponents were Murcia—complete with Holland's Dick van Dijk who nearly didn't make the match, manager Puskas being so dissatisfied with his form.

The same day Malaga continued their struggle against the drop with another Orozco goal doing all the damage—this time at home to a Valencia without top scorer Salif Keita. The Mali star has 11 goals, and could yet win the Trofeo Pichichi, awarded to the league's top scorer. Even better placed though is Zaragoza's Paraguayan, Nino Arrua. He scored two that same day in a 3-1 home win against Atletico and has now totalled 12.

Atletico redeemed themselves a little the next weekend with a tough 2-0 home win against Bilbao, despite the efforts of Iribar who, if technically the best goalkeeper in Spain, is not the No.1 statistically. That honour goes to Jorge d'Alessandro, the young Salamanca keeper who was once a team-mate of Ayala and Heredia with San Lorenzo de Almagro.

When Barcelona (with eight reserves) went down 1-0 at Salamanca it was d'Alessandro's 23rd game of the season, and he had only conceded 21 goals. Funny game, football, as I keep saying. That game against CFB provided Salamanca with record £46,000 takings—despite the absence of Cruyff and Company more concerned with Atvidaberg's non-threat in the Champions' Cup.

CGB defender Francisco Fernandez—better known as Gallego—was "sent off" after the match by referee Gonzalez for insulting him in the players' tunnel. Also sent off that day, under more normal circumstances, was van Dijk in Murica's 1-1 draw with Celta in Vigo. Home player Francisco Doblas kept him company.

Gallego was banned for three games, van Dijk for four.

Relegation

Celta, worried about relegation themselves, did well later to beat second-placed Zaragoza 2-0, but Zaragoza had to play without Arrua, injured in a practice game collision with reserve goalkeeper Jose Luis.

That really was a bad week for Arrua. The previous Sunday he missed a penalty against Espanol in a stormy game which featured at great length in the Spanish equivalent to Match of the Day.

The reason was a disputed goal by fell Paraguayan Carlos Diarte. His shot w blocked by Espanol keeper Blanch, a the ball was cleared by inside forward Manolin Cuesta. Referee Lamo Casti awarded a goal—the only one of the ga as it turned out. Espanol protested bitte that the ball hadn't crossed the line, b their appeals died away somewhat sudde after all of Spain had seen the slow-moti rerun!

Promotion

There's a nice tusale going on for pro tion from the second division (only on Spain now). Sevilla and Santander b had 39 points after 27 games, with Ovi and Cordoba on 37 and 34 respectively

Cordoba's coach is Eswaldo Izidio N —better known as Vava, Brazilian W Cup centre forward in 1958 and 1 and tough enough not to be shaken anonymous threats to his wife and child "if you don't keept the same team for next match".

Vava made a change in both defence attack and won 2-1—away to Sevilla all people!

Barcelona boss Rinus Michels pictured with Paul Van Himst of Anderlecht in Belgium.

PUSKAS TO MOVE?

NOT a few trainers will soon be on their way.

Ferenc Puskas took over Murcia when they were already bottom of the table, and he patched up morale quite considerably without getting any results. Murcia are doomed.

The transfer of Garcia Soriano didn't help, particularly since it was followed a day later by the resignation of club president Jose Moreno Jimenez and his entire board!

Puskas will probably look elsewhere for work at the season's end—probably away from Spain, maybe even back in Greece.

One man could make the journey the other way and leave a vacancy for him. Petro Petropoulos has put Olympiakos firmly on top it seems and a number of Spanish clubs have been priming a number of intermediaries to ask him to name a price. Atletico Madrid are one, Valencia are another, Bilbao another.

Atletico promoted Luis Aragones when Juan Carlos Lorenzo was pushed out—turning up like a bad penny to advise Independiente in the World Club Cup! —but Atletico are on the edge of the relegation zone.

To be fair to Luis, he was given a tough assignment. Not only was he expected to order men until recently his colleagues, but he was forced to accept Lorenzo's deputy, former Atletico and Inter-Milan star Joaquin Peiro, as his No.2.

Valencia seem to have decided already on another clear-out. Di Stefano went last year and general manager Emil Oesterreicher took on Milovan Ciric, one of Yugoslavia's World Cup coaches.

A season marred by internal dissension seems certain to end with the bullet not just for Ciric, but for Oesterreicher too. Already former Valencia star, Pasieguito, in charge of Sporting Gijon, is lined up as new general manager and has even been into the offices openly talking with officials and journalists about the club's future.

Rafael Iriondo seems unlikely to last long at Bilbao. They're even in worse trouble than Atletico and if they go down—it would be the first time in their history—Iriondo would never dare show his face in Basque country again.

Club president Jose Antonio Eguidazu called a special Press conference to announce that rumours that Iriondo's contract would be terminated at the season's end were untrue. But he must know full well that if Bilbao go down, he won't be in any position to name the manager . . .

Malaga are certain to do down with Murcia, despite the emergency surgery performed by one-time Nice, Atletico and France goalkeeper Marcel Domingo. He came in as "supervisor" midway through the season, while coach Antonio Carmona Ros kept his job. Carmona Ros has been assured that he won't be fired until the season's over!

Former Madrid full back Vicente Miera could take over if his Oviedo team should fail to win promotion from the second division.

Meanwhile the most intriguing managerial story surrounds Rinus Michels and Barcelona.

I've reported before that he's expected to go at the season's end, but where? To Anderlecht? Possible. To Kuwait?

Kuwait? Yes, Kuwait. Michels has been offered £400,000 to go there to collect soccer's answer to the Harlem Globetrotters. To sign on players like Cruyff, Zoff, Facchetti, Beckenbauer, etc, to go round the world playing exhibition matches. It would be like building a permanent World XI.

The terms seem tremendous, but then, Michels may be reflecting that money and reputation and a string of oil wells didn't do King Faisal much good.

I think Michels would ideally like to go to Italy. He's created some superb teams—at Ajax, then Barcelona. What other country could offer the money? (And for reasons which have nothing to do with football, it's unlikely he would turn up in West Germany). Unfortunately, the Italian borders remain closed to foreigners . . .

Already the prospective new tenants for Nou Camp are being listed. Stefan Kovacs (if you wonder why his name is linked with every top job, work it out for yourself . . .) would probably do very well. Then there's Max Merkel, recently dismissed by TSV Munich 1860.

Merkel is of course very unpopular, to put it mildly, in Spain after his distasteful exit from Atletico Madrid, and his chances rest with the next CFB presidential election.

"Merkel will be our new coach," says director Pedro Baret, "if I beat Agustin Montal in the election."

Fat chance.

Mihali Keri of Red Star and Branikovic of FC Ferencvaros, pictured during their recent European Cup Winners Cup tie which ended 2-1 to Red Star.

Player exodus hampers record

PERHAPS the most striking feature of the Yugoslavian overall international record is their clear superiority in matches against England, which contrasts with their total lack of success against Scotland.

Another unusual aspect has been the Yugoslav's failings against their Central European neighbours. The Hungarians clearly have the Indian sign on Yugoslavia and the Czechs have beaten them more often than not. One possible explanation is the fact that many of the Yugoslav games against Hungary and Czechoslovaka were played in the 1930's when the Czechs and Hungarians were indisputably amongst the best in the world.

Again, since the 1950's, the Yugoslavs have permitted their top players to become professionals with clubs in Western Europe, while their neighbours have benefited from having all the players they produced available at home. Even this does not explain, however, why Rumania should have fared best overall in their games with Yugoslavia.

If you discuss this question with almost any Yugoslav coach or manager you will almost certainly be told that the Yugoslav players are not at all amenable to discipline. Hungarians and Bulgarians, too, bemoan the fact that their footballers do not live dedicated lives as one would expect from a sportsman but particularly in the case of Yugoslavia this does not I feel, apply quite strictly.

From my observation of Yugoslavs, they have a more Latin temperament than most of their neighbours to the north and west, but they suffer inexplicably from a much overdone sense of inferiority. In front of their own crowds, when everything goes right for them they are capable of winning 5-0, yet away from home the same set of players can be beaten 6-0.

This has shown up repeatedly in international club competitions when Yugoslav clubs have taken what appears to be a winning lead in the first leg but fallen apart away from home and been eliminated.

Of course, there is an element of indiscipline in many East European countries where the players status is that of a pseudo amateur. But it is not confined to this region alone as recent events in West Germany have clearly shown.

Even in England, the home of professional football, there are many examples of good players who, according to some managers, lack character and this prevents them from rising to the very top.

As far as the Yugoslavs are concerne inconsistent is the best word I can find b it is not universally true. Rajko Mitic example, one of the Yugoslavs all-ti great players, took over the national s when the game there was at a very l ebb.

His first game away to neighbouri Bulgaria produced a mixed bag of excu from his chosen squad, varying from "i to "injured" and "studying". Hours la the Yugoslav coach departed, only af officials had hustled round Belgrade taxis, picking up replacements and fran telephone calls to clubs on the main ro to Sofia enabled them to field a team.

Clearly on this occasion the Yugosla did not want to play. Their morale w at a very low ebb and they were sure th were going to lose. Yet two years la after much patient work by Mitic, t Yugoslavs produced a team that havi qualified for the semi finals of the 19 European Nations Cup, acquitted the selves very well indeed. They beat Engla 1-0, scored first in the final drawing after extra time and losing against Italy in a replayed final 48 hours later when h their players were only half fit.

In the 1974 World Cup they met Brazil the opening match and the players we clearly apprehensive. But as the game wa on and it became apparent that the Brazilia were not half as good as their reputatio the Yugoslavs grew in stature and confiden and did more than enough to win. The on thing they really lacked was a killer punc an aggressive striking forward who wou

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INTERNATIONAL MICROSCOPE

YUGOSLAVIA

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have rounded off their often superb approach play.

This lack of goalscoring power has so often held the Yugoslavs back, for at their best they come closest of all the Europeans in their ability to produce the graceful, highly skilled attacking players that have until now marked the game in Brazil. No other country in Europe has so often lost as many as a hundred players in three or four years to foreign clubs, yet risen again with a fresh crop of gifted youngsters.

Looking back over the past, memories come flooding back of exceptionally gifted constructive inside forwards. Rajko Mitic' Stefan Bobek and Bernard Vukas were all truly great players of the 1950's and following them came Dragoslav Sekularac perhaps the most gifted of them all. Sekularac's skill with the ball had to be seen to be believed, but unfortunately, unlike Mitic, Bobek and Vukas he didn't know when to let the ball go.

Sekularac was the star of the 1962 World Cup team and four years earlier he had demoralised England (who crashed to a 5-0 defeat in Belgrade) with his glittering array of feints and tricks to such effect that no one could take the ball from him.

In the 1960's the Yugoslav game reached a very poor patch that was only ended when Mitic took over. But since then they have steadily rebuilt their reputation for producing players. Dragan Dzajic was the first to set the new standard, a supremely gifted left winger who has become the most capped Yugoslav of all time.

Regretfully, a broken leg appears to have robbed him of his confidence to hold the ball and go by opponents as he once did with elegance and skill.

But coming up as Dzajic matured were other young players who have now reached their middle twenties, inside forwards like Jovan Acimovic and Branko Oblak who excel in every aspect of the game bar scoring goals.

Others who could yet re-appear at international level and become widely recognised are full backs Peter Krivokuca and Dragoslav Stepanovic. This pair are as gifted as any forwards and it was a tragedy that injuries prevented them from playing in the last World Cup. Yet another highly gifted player worthy of a mention is Red Star's Vladislav Bogicevic who has all the skills of a great player but has been tagged the "Best of Belgrade".

The important thing, however, is that the Yugoslavs are still producing players like Acimovic, Oblak, Stepanovic and Krivokuca and all they need is the right conditions allied to a higher level of consistency to build an outstanding side once more.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Goals Agst.
Albania	5	4	1	0	13	4
Argentina	3	1	1	1	6	6
Austria	13	4	4	5	26	34
Belgium	8	4	2	2	14	11
Bolivia	2	1	1	0	5	1
Brazil	10	2	4	4	18	21
Bulgaria	23	14	4	5	46	35
Chile	1	0	0	1	0	1
Colombia	1	1	0	0	5	0
Czechoslovakia	32	10	4	18	56	94
Denmark	4	4	0	0	17	6
Egypt (UAR)	5	3	2	0	15	4
Eire	1	1	0	0	4	1
England	12	5	5	2	21	15
Ethiopia	1	1	0	0	5	2
Finland	3	2	0	1	16	4
France	18	7	1	10	23	28
Germany, East	5	2	2	1	7	5
Germany, West	19	8	1	10	24	30
Greece	14	11	1	2	44	13
Holland	3	2	1	0	5	2
Hong Kong	2	2	0	0	8	2
Hungary	26	4	8	14	36	55
India	2	2	0	0	14	2
Indonesia	54	5	0	0	23	6
Israel	9	6	1	2	21	9
Italy	11	3	3	5	16	16
Japan	2	2	0	0	7	1
Korea, South	2	2	0	0	8	2
Luxembourg	5	4	1	0	16	4
Mexico	2	2	0	0	8	1
Morocco	3	3	0	0	11	4
Norway	7	5	1	1	19	9
Paraguay	2	1	1	0	5	4
Peru	1	1	0	0	2	1
Poland	17	8	3	6	44	37
Portugal	4	1	0	3	9	8
Rumania	32	12	5	15	49	49
Scotland	5	0	4	1	6	8
Spain	7	1	4	2	6	7
Sweden	8	3	2	3	11	12
Switzerland	8	4	2	1	22	10
Tunisia	3	3	0	0	17	11
Turkey	8	5	2	1	22	11
Uruguay	3	1	0	2	4	14
U.S.A.	1	1	0	0	9	1
U.S.S.R.	12	1	4	7	12	24
Venezuela	1	1	0	0	10	0
Wales	2	2	0	0	8	3
Zaire	1	1	0	0	9	0
Totals	372	172	75	125	802	626

Juhasz (light shirt) of Ferencvaros against Baralic, Radokivic and Keri of Red Star in the match won 2-1 by Red Star.

WILL CHARL LEAPFROG B

WHEN we get in the Second Division," said Michael Gliksten, the young Chairman of Charlton, "I think we'll leapfrog." He was at pains to emphasise the "when." Once a very young Chairman—he inherited the title from his father and uncle at the age of 23—Michael Gliksten has known some roller coaster years with the South East London club, which looks now (or at least at the moment of writing) as if it really will get out of that Third Division which it first left in 1935; to leapfrog indeed, staying a mere year in the Second Division, taking a splendid second place in Division One the year after that.

This season, a new manager was appointed in Andy Nelson, a tall, laconic, determined Cockney who is yet another graduate of the West Ham Academy of Football Arts and Scientists. At Upton Park he was merely a modest half-back, but with Ipswich Town he really blossomed, becoming centre-half and captain of the team that Ramsey built; the team which did something of a Charlton of its own, winning the Championships of the Second and the First Division in consecutive seasons in the 1960s.

Nelson follows a swift and not too happy succession of Charlton managers. There was Bob Stokoe, who made a special point of sharply criticising Gliksten ("I have to put up with cruel criticism because I feel the buck should stop with me") though Gliksten has his own case to put.

Dedicated

There was Eddie Firmani, once a splendid Charlton striker, a scorer of manifold goals, who eventually despaired because he felt, in Gliksten's view, that the players should be as dedicated and devoted as he. There was Theo Foley, who had been a great success as club captain, a hugely enthusiastic coach, and was actually given a rise in salary when the team went down to the Third Division.

That Foley worked like a Trojan nobody denies; Colin Powell, one of the many Charlton players who still speak of him with affection, says that nobody could have worked harder; that he must surely have succeeded anywhere else. Reading between the lines, one gathers that the general feeling among Charlton's administrators is that Foley found it hard to make that apparently short but in fact alarmingly long step, from coach to manager.

McCreadie appointed

Eddie McCreadie has been upgraded from Chief Coach to Team Manager at Chelsea, taking over from Ron Suart who becomes General Manager. McCreadie, a former Scottish international and Chelsea full-back, faced a daunting first few weeks with his club staring relegation in the face.

Nevertheless, he has left them a most useful legacy of players; not least the big centre-forward, Arthur Horsfield, who came from Swindon Town in exchange for Ray Treacy, and struck me, when I saw him, as an old fashioned leader in the very best sense, binding his attack together with his flicks and dummies and strong runs on the wing, making chances as well as expertly taking them.

Nelson, in fact, has so far brought very few players to Charlton. Two came on free transfers from nearby Millwall; the immensely sympathetic, endlessly enthusiastic Harry Cripps, who knew Nelson first at West Ham, and the extremely talented inside-forward, Mike Kelly, a player of very considerable potential. Nelson speaks of him as not only a fine ball player but a very good athlete, an excellent runner.

To be frank, I felt when I saw him that while he has a most original and sophisticated view of the game, an admirable technique, he tended to be stationary; but if there is anybody who can answer the putative question, "What makes Kelly Run?" it must surely be Andy Nelson.

Charming

Tony Pocock, the charming, vastly travelled and generously committed publisher who looks benignly after the education of youth players, and was sorry he had to settle for Real Madrid v. Atletico the day Charlton were playing, and winning, at Walsall, says of Nelson that he has, "Discipline first and a sense of organisation second. A sort of coldness, and I think I mean that word, too, and a sternness which the team desperately needed and the club needed, too."

Not that Nelson is in any sense to be seen as a gauleiter, a Herrera figure, barking orders at his cowering players. When I travelled with them to that Walsall game, I was struck by how friendly and easy were his relations with them. He cheerfully joined in their cribbage games. He is certainly a man who does not put up cheerfully with fools or nonsense, being full of that celebrated Cockney scepticism.

"I don't really know what happened here in the past," he said to me, when I went down—after so many years—to re-visit the colossal expanses of the Valley; a ground which still has the largest capacity of any League stadium in all England, 67,000, and which actually squeezed in 70,000 for the pop concert given last June by The Who. If I may digress here, I should like to evoke two memories of Charlton and The Valley.

In August, 1942, a ten-year-old school-

TON ACK ?

BRIAN GLANVILLE visits the Valley to witness a rejuvenated club aiming for promotion

boy, I remember making the enormous trip from North London with my father, by bus, to watch Charlton play the Arsenal. Charlton, of course, had Sam Bartram in goal. Arsenal had . . . Leslie Compton. These being wartime days, their designated goalkeeper and later manager, George Swindin, had not turned up. Leslie Compton, down to play full-back, was a Middlesex wicket-keeper, so the choice was logical.

Above all, however, the match was notable for the return to the Arsenal attack of Britain's most expensive player, Bryn Jones, who had cost £14,000 from Wolves in 1938 (what would that be now? £140,000?) He scored three goals, and Arsenal won 6-2.

In April, 1947, again with my father, I stood on a mudbank behind the goal, jammed in among a crowd of 60,000, all there to see Charlton, and Bartram, play the Arsenal again. The match had nothing at stake. Indeed, for Charlton it was the merest of exercises, since the following Saturday they were due to play, and beat Burnley in the Cup Final.

Arsenal, meanwhile, having acquired Mercer and Rooke, had escaped relegation. 60,000 saw the match, and the result was a 2-2 draw. I remember Jimmy Logie scoring an untypical goal, the little Scots inside-right letting fly a splendid shot which beat Bartram and cannoned back from the stanchion.

Goalposts

But to return to Nelson, and the Charlton of today. "What we've done, Peter and I (Peter Shearing, the former goalkeeper who came with him as coach from Gillingham) is purely and simply to insist on basic things. We try to get together people who can pass to people in the same coloured shirt; there's not too many of them about, now. We try to insist that the goalposts at each end of the pitch are there for a particular reason. If you want to see people chasing around like blue-arsed flies, you go to White City. That's a great day out.

"We don't train all that hard, but we train in an interesting way." Indeed, Peter Shearing's view is that once you have got your players truly fit at the beginning of the season, all you need to do is to keep the players ticking over.

Nelson, you might say, is an idealist and a perfectionist. He admits that his ambition is not merely to beat the opposition, but "completely to demoralise the other side."

He says that Charlton have reached a stage where not merely the results which will keep him his job but "the way we get results" is important. If they are obtained "in a biff bang way" then there will never be more than the four and a half thousand fans which was the average last season. Gilksten speaks warmly of the Charlton fans, says they do not owe Charlton anything, and stresses what a pleasant and tolerant lot they are, creating an atmosphere in which good young players can flourish.

Nelson says he has applied for only two jobs in his life; Gillingham and Charlton, because in each case he felt the club had First Division potential. "If you've done everything and still got beat," he says, "it's not a desperate situation".

Charlton's situation seems far from desperate. Roll on the day when they can get 70,000 for a football match, as well as for a pop concert!

European Cup preview . . .

Next month's World Soccer will contain a special European Cup preview. In the above picture Hoeness and Wunder of Bayern Munich contest the ball with Triantafilos of St. Etienne.

READERS FORUM...

I HAVE been subscribing to your magazine off and on for the last 12 years, and regularly for the last four years. I appreciate very much the extensive coverage given to football in countries all over the world. You can truly claim to be The International Magazine, in fact the only International English soccer magazine. Yours surely must be the only English football journal which does not think that world football begins with Colin Todd and ends with Kevin Keegan. I find that "World Soccer" gives a refreshingly balanced coverage.

While regretting the bitter personal attack led against Sir Alf Ramsey by Leslie Vernon, and the lack of any similar attack on Don Revie for similar faults (clearly Ramsey's mistake was to succeed), I greeted with rapturous approval your criticism of the election of Norman Hunter as last year's Players' Player of the Year, and your exposure of all of his type as anything but *players*.

Competitive

As one who does not have the time to play regular competitive football, and has thus turned to refereeing, I have also appreciated your recent articles and features on referees and refereeing. It is your article "FIFA Directive is Clear Cut" (April 1975) which has prompted me to write. You reveal that a 1974 World Cup Referees Committee omitted the word "intentionally" from their advice to players on Law XII. I can now understand why Jack Taylor awarded a penalty to the West Germans in the World Cup Final when Holzenbein tripped over the motionless outstretched leg of Jansen who was *sitting* on the ground.

Eric Batty argues for the omission of the word "intentionally" from Law XII altogether. This would certainly make refereeing much simpler. In fact, it would make refereeing so clinical that referees would soon be replaced by computers. Does Eric Batty want to see a penalty or direct free kick awarded against a player when he is struck on the hand by a shot power-driven from a few yards away, when he has no time to *see* the ball, let alone avoid it? For that would be the logical conclusion of omitting the word "intentionally" from Law XII.

Clearly the word "intentionally' is vital to Law XII if the game is not to become a farce. Eric Batty says: "During the World Cup referees did not have to decide whether a player was tripped intentionally but only if he was tripped". If that is so we could soon be in the ridiculous situation where a player is not punished by a free kick to the other side if he trips an opponent, but is rewarded with a free kick to his own side if he himself trips over an opponent (whether or not that opponent had any intention of tripping him). In fact, we are already in that situation if the second penalty awarded in the World Cup Final is anything to go by.

Ruling

By placing the emphasis on what *happens* rather than what is *intended* we would also be effectively ruling out an important part of the law which makes it an offence to *try* to kick or strike an opponent, whether or not successfully.

On a different matter, since there seems to be no sign of it being done elsewhere in print, I would like to congratulate referee Vital Loraux (Belgium) and/or his linesman for his brilliant decision in awarding the free kick to Barcelona FC in the first leg of the European Cup semi-final against Leeds United which led to Asensi scoring Barcelona's goal. All the papers I saw on the following day criticised Loraux, and even villified him for penalising "one of the crispest, cleanest tackles of the night" (Alexander Clyde—London Evening Standard). You would have thought that before entering on such a personal attack on a highly-respected official such journalists would have bothered to watch BBC's Sports-night programme, which clearly showed the truth of the matter.

Brilliant

What the TV recording showed beyond dispute was this. Cruyff put Heredia clear with a brilliant, long through-pass, a goal seemed certain. Reaney cynically and deliberately ran into Heredia from behind. As Heredia was thrown to the ground he stepped on the ball, stopped it and giving the impression to some that Reaney had fairly gained possession. Loraux and his linesman were not deceived and justice was done. (It was notable that Reaney took no part in the violent protestations against the award of the free kick.)

One is only left with the thought that if the incident had happened in reverse on the edge of the Barcelona area and *no* free kick had been awarded, the very same journalists who condemned Loraux would have taken care to watch the TV recording, and to condemn "continental" referees for ineptitude, and "continental" players for their blatant and cynical foul play. It is enough to make one ashamed to be British!

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Heredia of Barcelona.

New league formula in Switzerland

SWITZERLAND became the third European country to introduce a new formula for the national League championship. After Austria, who have chopped down their top Division to 10 clubs and Scotland, who will start next season with a Premier League also comprising just 10 teams, now come the Swiss with a totally new concept. According to most experts, it will either revolutionise the League systems throughout the world, or simply prove a damp squib which will explode in the faces of its creators.

As from season 1976-77, the Swiss National League will be run on the following lines: The first division will be reduced from 14 to 12 clubs. The second division will be increased to 16 clubs. In the opening phase of the championship the teams will play against each other on a home-and-away basis. Thus every club will complete 22 fixtures.

In the second phase the seven teams who finish top of the table will form a final pool, in which they will meet each other just once. These matches will take place Saturdays and Wednesdays, in June, and will give each club three home and three away fixtures. The winner of this pool will of course be crowned champion.

Series

Those five clubs who finish bottom of the normal League championship, will also move into a final series to decide the two relegated clubs! These arrangements will probably be modified, for instance, by rewarding the top placed clubs with bonus points to take into the decisive series.

Otherwise it would mean that a team who happens to strike form just during the finals in June will be the champions. The most realistic proposal so far, suggests that the first placed team should get three points, the second two points and the third team one point.

As it is, the Football Federation will still be faced with complaints about the allocation of the home and away games within the pools, which are bound to favour those clubs who are evenly balanced but many benefit from home advantage.

from ARTHUR ROTMIL

In effect, the championship will no longer be decided as a trial of strength and endurance, over the length of the season, but simply by a sudden run of good performances concentrated in the space of a few weeks.

Incidentally, the gate receipts from the final pool matches will be equally divided between the participants. This reform means, that at the end of next season three clubs will be relegated from the National League "A", and only one team promoted from the NL "B". The Second, or "B" Division, will of course carry on its programme in the normal way.

Fixtures

After the longest break in the history of Swiss football, from November 17 till March 16, the fixtures were resumed, with most clubs not very happy over this lengthy pause requiring virtually a new start with condition training and a series of friendlies staged during bad weather.

Early in March several games postponed in the autumn were also played off, including the semi-finals of the Cup, which had been arranged on a home-and-away basis.

These were in fact completed within 48 hours, having been brought forward by a day, from Wednesday to Tuesday, to avoid clashing with the live televising of the Wembley international England v. West Germany!

FC Basel duly disposed in the first tie of modest CS Chenois, winning by 4-1 away and then cruised to a 2-1 home success to reach the Cup final for the tenth time. In the other clash Winterthur put out the more famous Young Boys of Bern. Having established a 2-1 lead from the home leg, Winterthur held the Young Boys to a 0-0 draw to qualify for their second final. Very disappointing were the attendances at these matches. In fact, ever since the Football Federation (SFV) decided to stage the semi-finals as two-legged ties, spectators have been staying away in increasing numbers.

In 1970 the average gate for a semi-final tie was 13,000. But the slump started during the next tournament, in which this "double" formula was tried. In 1973, only 11,400 per game were registered. The interest rose slightly to 12,050 in 1974, but in the current series it dropped alarmingly to just 8,875 spectators per match! This ludicrously low figure should act as a warning to the SFV, that the present method of deciding the finalists is unpopular with the public.

Average

At least the goalscoring ration has improved in the League, showing at the half way stage the healthy average of 3.33 goals per game, the highest in fact for five years. Basel, who were favourites to win the Cup, were strengthened by the return of their redoubtable captain Karl Odermatt, who was out with pulled ligaments since mid-October.

Champions FC Zurich have established a solid lead (five points at the end of March), at the top of the table and will take some shifting. There is no team in the country at the moment who could successfully challenge Zurich's supremacy.

Declined

Basel, their fiercest rivals during the past decade, have declined through the ageing of some of their star men, whilst teams from the "Latin" part of the country (Lausanne, Servette) are not physically equipped to tackle the tough German-Swiss Zurich outfit.

For the national team there were three tough games in the European Championship, scheduled before the end of the season: On April 30 v. Turkey in Zurich; on May 10 v. Republic of Ireland in Dublin, and again on May 21, this time in Bern.

OH GOALS, WHERE AR

OH GOALS, oh goals, where art thou? That is the current rhetorical question asked anxiously in Hungary, following the national team's latest adventures. Two "ducks" against France and Austria took their non-scoring sequence to four, if one disregards the penalty converted against Switzerland.

But as old HH, inventor of the blessed catenaccio, taught us, not conceding goals is more important than actually scoring them. In that light, the draw in Vienna was a good result, and with three home games coming up, the green light is on for a march into the European Championship quarter-finals.

Sadly, Jozsef Bozsik is still not well enough to resume his duties as national team manager. Consequently, during the spring season, Ede Moor is carrying on as caretaker manager, with Lajos Baroti hovering benevolently in the background. Before the France match, it was recognized that the Dozsa coach's presence wasn't wholly beneficial, so instead of Pal Varadi, Janos Szocs of Zalaegerszeg was appointed as team coach.

This is no reflection on Varadi's undoubted integrity, but with several Dozsa players in the squad, his involvement became a matter of unnecessary controversy. Still searching for a winning blend, Moor re-drafted Kocsis and Kozma into the national squad against France, gave Sandor Pinter of Honved his first cap, and picked Endre Kolar on the right flank of the defence. Regrettably, Kozma sustained an injury and was unable to travel, and his place went to L. Nagy.

Substitutes

Prior to the game, the Hungarians asked Kovacs, the French national team boss, to allow three substitutes to be used. Kovacs, who incidentally speaks fluent Hungarian, had no objections, as this game also served the French as a warm-up exercise before their own EC campaign.

The game, played on the infamous, pudding-like pitch of the Parc de Prince stadium, was a one-sided affair. The Magyars never had a look-in, and two second-half goals by Michel and Parison gave the French their first victory over Hungary for 40 years!

Ironically, while the French made full use of the three subs arrangement, Moor only sent on A. Toth for the off-form Nagy. When later questioned, he said that the forwards were playing so badly that he thought that they must improve, and it would have been unfair to saddle anyone else with the task of revitalizing the side. Surely a remark in the class of Sir Alf's never-to-be-forgotten excuse that he didn't know the time when Hector took over from Chivers against Poland at Wembley.

After such a sorry display, changes had to be made for the vital game v Austria. Balint was given the job to shadow Krankl, Peter Torok came back at right-back, Janos Nagy was chosen as central defender.

Csapo of Tatabanya formed the middle trio with Kocsis and Toth, and Branikovits teamed-up with Bene up-front. This was the 119th encounter

Horvath scores for Hungary against Luxembourg in the European Championship . . . but goals have been few and far between since then.

OH GOALS, T THOU?

between these two old enemies, and an Austrian victory would have almost certainly meant a passport into the last eight. Seventy thousand people gave plenty of vocal support to the home team in Vienna — a team which haven't lost a match since their World Cup play-off defeat against Sweden.

Unquestionably, the most interesting newcomer in the Austrian side was the tall, gangling Riedl of Antwerp. This unknown striker has been scoring freely in Belgium, and when his name was brought to the attention of Leopold Stastny, he admitted that he didn't even know of Riedl's existence.

Although he hadn't seen him play, the Austrian supremo did pick Riedl, but the story has an unhappy ending. The new scoring "sensation" had a poor game, not unlike the other legionnaires, Kreuz from Feyenoord and Hattenberger from Fortuna Cologne.

Although Austria were the slightly better side, they couldn't create more than a handful of scoring chances. The Hungarians defended well, Nagy was quite brilliant in everything he did, and they counter-attacked effectively.

Kocsis, in midfield, slowed down the game cleverly, held the ball, and sent some astute passes through the Austrian defence. Branikovits was too slow to snap-up these opportunities, and was subbed by Fekete. Meszaros in goal also had a tremendous match — at last a really good performance by a Hungarian goalkeeper.

Appetizer

The result pleased the Hungarians, and Mike Smith of Wales was also highly satisfied. Now the group has an open look for everything to play for in Budapest (v Wales), and later in Cardiff (v Austria). As an appetizer before the seniors' clash, Austria and Hungary played-off their Under-23 fixture in the Prater. Holders of the title, the Magyars are still doing pretty well on this level, and shared the points in a 2-2 draw. There is even better news of the youth side. They beat Bulgaria 2-1 on aggregate (1-0 away, 1-1 at home!), and qualified for the finals to be played in Switzerland.

After years of failure, this was a notable achievement, due mainly to the excellent work done by ex-Ferencvaros player, team manager Gyula Rakosi. In the league, the title race continues

Leslie Vernon reporting from Budapest prior to Hungary's home defeat against Wales

between Dozsa and Honved. The Army team dropped a point at Pecs, and are now one point behind the lilacs-and-whites who have a game in hand.

No wonder that the public are looking forward to the Nepstadion double-headers, which will involve the top two plus Fradi and Vasas. To all accounts, the tempo and standard of domestic football has improved significantly since the compulsory training schedules were introduced. But they do need unquestionable proof that they are on the right road to recovery.

Perhaps Ferencvaros will provide it in the Cup Winners Cup, or Hungary in the European Championship?

NEXT MONTH

European Cup preview plus a review of the English season, and a European Championship round-up with the latest tables and fixtures . . .

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WORLD SOCCER DIARY

FIFA hit by lack of funds

by JACK ROLLIN

THE world's economical crisis has hit FIFA, too, it seems. Because of a lack of funds it has had to drastically reduce expenditure on technical instruction.

A plan to spend four million dollars over four years in some 100 affiliated national associations on administrative, refereeing and medical training has been cancelled. Instead a new scheme with less outlay and costing one million dollars will cover some 80 associations.

But better news came when it was announced in Zurich that the first junior World Cup competition would take place in 1977. This would be a blow to most English newspapers, of course, who have consistently referred to the UEFA Youth tournament annually as the "Little World Cup". What they will decide to call the real Little World Cup is anyone's guess.

Tunisia and jointly Belgium and Holland have expressed interest in organising the first tournament for either 16 or 24 teams in its final stage. The age limit is likely to be 19 years.

★ ★ ★

One of the emerging nations is certainly Iran, who are currently engaged in their third season with a national league. The new championship has 16 teams, an increase of four over the past two seasons.

Half of the teams come from Tehran, the rest from provincial centres. In the first season the league winners were Persepolis and last year Taj of Tehran won it after being runners-up the previous term.

The provincial towns who have teams in the league include Abadan, Ahwaz, Isfahan and Bandar Pahlavi.

★ ★ ★

The wind of change has been blowing through the Zaire national team, too. Under their new team manager, the Rumanian-born Stefan Stanculescu, a number of changes have been made, not the least of which concern the composition of the side.

Recently a squad of 28 players selected for national team training included only ten of last year's World Cup side with goalkeeper Kazadi one of the casualties.

Another new departure has been the use of players from Mbuji Mayi the part of the country which has produced the champion club of the area in Sanga Balende. Previously the national team players had come from Kinshasa and Lubumbashi only.

Zaire's national champions this year are Cercle Sportif Imana from Kinshasa, however, and will represent the country in next year's African Champions Cup.

Yugoslavia have recently returned from sending their amateur team to play a series of games in China. They beat Shanghai 1-0, Canton 1-0 and North West China 2-0 during their three-match tour.

The Republic of China are making strenuous efforts to get into international football and they are likely to have further visits from other national association teams in the future.

★ ★ ★

Barcelona, who paid off the money they owed for Johan Cruyff during his first year with the club, are looking for some ready cash to pay for an increase in the accommodation at their ground.

The current capacity of the Nou Camp is 110,000 and the club is aiming to add 22,236 seating places in a big modernisation drive which they hope will make it one of the best in the world.

If they succeed in getting hold of some cash they will be able to boast a bigger stadium than their great rivals Real Madrid whose Bernabeu Stadium holds only 120,000 at present.

★ ★ ★

Japanese football is still comparitively young when you realise the national league has only been in operation for ten years. The most successful team, particularly in the first few seasons, was Toyo Kogyo from Hiroshima, who won the first four championships and a fifth in 1970.

The most consistent player in the last decade in Japan has been Koji Funamoto, the goalkeeper of Toyo Kogyo, who played in the opening game of the Japanese league programme on June 6, 1965, and has played in the subsequent 148 games, too!

Funamoto has also turned out for the national team in World Cup qualifying matches and other international fixtures and is one of 21 players to have made 100 or more league appearances during the last ten years.

★ ★ ★

The United States Soccer Federation recently asked FIFA if it would sanction the experiment of enlarging the goals by two feet in width and six inches higher for the 1975 North American Soccer League.

The application was refused. Perhaps it was just as well, too.

Their national team on tour in Europe recently lost 7-0 to Poland and crashed 10-0 against Italy — so bigger goals are only going to increase their particular problems. . . .

★ ★ ★

Holland's national coach Georg Knobel is staying on after all as national team coach. Recently he said that he was going to resign for family reasons in July but has accepted a four-year contract instead.

Knobel took over from the Dr Frantisek Fadrhonc — Rinus Michels duo which steered Holland to the World Cup Final in 1974.

★ ★ ★

Adelardo Rodriguez, Atletico Madrid's 34-year-old midfield general and captain recently made history when he played in his 500th game for the club.

Adelardo celebrated in style, too because the game coincided with the second leg of the World Club Championship and Atletico clinched the game against Independiente winning 2-0 and 2-1 on aggregate.

Adelardo was in the Atletico side which won the European Cup Winners Cup in 1962 and received a runners-up medal in the same competition the following year when Spurs beat the Spanish side 5-1.

★ ★ ★

Poland have introduced one or two new names to their squad which did so well in the World Cup last year including several who did not even figure in the country's original list of 40 for the competition.

A new goalkeeper is being groomed too, as a stand-in for Jan Tomaszewski called Jan Karwecki, but many of the old favourites like Jerzy Gorgon, Kazimierz Deyna, Grzegorz Lato and Andrzej Szarmach are still there.

Gadocha moves to FC Nantes

MARCH 7

WARSAW: Roberto Gadocha, the 29-year-old Polish international winger, has been granted permission to play for Nantes in the French First Division. Gadocha won 59 caps for Poland including the 1974 World Cup.

MARCH 11

GELSENKIRCHEN: FC Schalke 04 decided against buying Brazilian World Cup left-back Francisco Marinho from Botafogo. The Brazilian club was reported to have wanted 550,000 dollars for him, but only the day before some 70,000 fans at Schalke's home game were asked to vote on whether the club should sign him. Only 450 ballot slips were found however — three-quarters in favour and half of these willing to pay more at the turnstiles for Marinho. But the club blamed a malicious joker or a mistake by the cleaners for the disappearance of the thousands of other ballot papers.

MARCH 12

BUENOS AIRES: Independiente of Argentina beat Atletico Madrid 1-0 in the first leg of their World Club Championship match before 50,000. Balbuena in the 36th minute was the goalscorer.

MARCH 14

BELGRADE: According to an amateur archaeologist, Professor Josip Brituic, the crade of soccer was a small Yugoslav seaside resort not England. The professor was reported in a newspaper to have collected proof that the game was played almost 20 centuries ago in the small Dalmatian town of Sinj. One of the discoveries was said to be a relief dating back to 17 AD depicting a football player.

SALISBURY: Rhodesia cannot re-enter international soccer until racial discrimination completely disappears, said the African Football Federation. The local association had wanted to gain affiliation to the African Football Confederation but had been rejected.

ZURICH: FIFA President Dr Joao Havelange and General Secretary Dr Helmut Kaiser plan to visit China early in May for talks aimed at China's keenness to re-enter the world governing body which she left in 1959.

MARCH 15

TAIPEI: The Taiwan FA said it hoped that FIFA would reject any proposal to elect China in place of themselves. The Republic of China want Taiwan to be expelled as a condition of any re-entry.

MARCH 16

LUXEMBOURG: Austria recovered from losing a goal in the 12th minute to Luxembourg to win their European Championship match 2-1. Koglberger and Krankl were their scorers.

MARCH 18

MADRID: England beat Spain 1-0 in a UEFA Youth qualifying match to win 2-1 on aggregate. Keith Bertschin scored in the 27th minute.

MARCH 22

STUTTGART: At least 15 fans were injured when two tramcars collided after a match involving VfB Stuttgart and FC Cologne. Police said a number of the supporters were critically injured.

MARCH 25

SYDNEY: A bank, a brewery, an electrical firm and a hotel chain have pledged £67,000 towards Australia's 1978 World Cup effort. Rale Rasic, the Yugoslavian who led the Aussies to the 1974 series, is expected to be in charge of the team again.

MARCH 26

ZEIST: Georg Knobel, Holland's national team coach, is to resign at the end of his present contract in July for family reasons. He has been in charge since the start of the current season.

MARCH 27

PARIS: The controversial pitch at the Parc des Princes Stadium appeared to stand up well to the international between France and Hungary, won 2-0 by France with goals from Henri Michel and Patrick Parizon, a substitute. The ground is expected to be fit for the European Cup Final due to be played on it on May 28.

DATELINE REVIEW

ZURICH: If Derby County succeed in winning the league title, they will be without striker Kevin Hector in their opening first round match. He received a one-match UEFA suspension because of receiving two cautions in previous games. Leeds were fined £500 through fans invading the pitch at the end of the second leg in Brussels against Anderlecht.

MARCH 30

FEZ: Morocco beat Senegal 4-0 in an African Nations Cup match watched by FIFA President Joao Havelange. Skipper Faras opened the scoring in 30 minutes, Acila added a second before half-time and Guezzar and Najah were second-half scorers.

MARCH 31

BERNE: Basle beat Winterthur 2-1 in the Swiss Cup Final after extra time.

PRAGUE: Czechoslovakia and Rumania drew 1-1 in a friendly, with Nehoda giving the Czechs a half-time lead and Kun equalising.

MARCH 26

BRUSSELS: A crowd of 30,000 paid tribute to Anderlecht skipper Paul Van Himst in his testimonial game against a world selection. Anderlecht won 8-3. Pele, playing for the all-stars, twice missed a penalty. Each time the Anderlecht goalkeeper, Jan Ruiter, saved.

MARCH 24

BELGRADE: Yugoslavia has agreed to play Northern Ireland in Belfast on April 16 in the European Championship. It will be Ireland's first home game since October, 1971, because of the local disturbances.

APRIL 2

VIENNA: Austria and Hungary drew 0-0 in the European Championship before 70,000.

MOSCOW: Russia beat Turkey 3-0 in another European Championship match but did not convince. Kolotov with two penalties and Blokhin were their scorers.

ROME: Italy thrashed the touring USA side 10-0, scoring five times in each half.

APRIL 3

PESCARA: Second Division Pescara beat the USA 2-1 despite experimenting with reserves and using many substitutes.

APRIL 4

ZURICH: FIFA has had to cut back on plans for a four million dollar scheme in some 100 affiliated countries on administrative, refereeing and medical training. Instead a less ambitious one million dollar plan will cover 80 affiliated associations.

LEAGUE TABLES

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	**27**	**17**	**8**	**2**	**54**	**25**	**42**
Real Zaragoza	27	12	7	8	42	35	31
Real Sociedad	27	10	10	7	31	26	30
Barcelona	27	11	5	11	45	33	27
Betis	27	11	5	11	27	29	27
Granada	27	9	9	9	29	33	27
Español	27	11	5	11	29	36	27
Elche	27	10	7	10	27	35	27
Valencia	26	9	8	9	35	30	26
Salamanca	27	7	12	8	28	26	26
Hercules	27	7	12	8	27	29	26
Celta	27	9	8	10	27	32	26
Atl. Madrid	26	7	11	8	32	27	25
Atletico Bilbao	27	9	7	11	31	34	25
Gijon	26	7	10	9	29	31	24
Malaga	27	10	4	13	24	33	24
Las Palmas	26	8	7	11	34	34	23
Murcia	27	5	9	13	25	48	19

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AEK Athens	**26**	**18**	**7**	**1**	**54**	**11**	**43**
Olympiakos	26	18	7	1	52	17	43
PAOK	26	15	7	4	55	19	37
Ethnikos	26	14	9	3	40	19	37
Panathinaikos	26	11	10	5	42	27	32
Aris	26	10	8	8	31	31	28
Iannina	26	11	5	10	31	31	27
Panachaiki	26	8	10	8	30	27	26
Kastoria	26	9	8	9	36	48	26
Panionios	26	9	7	10	30	32	25
Iraklis	26	7	9	10	30	34	23
Panserraikos	26	5	12	9	16	26	22
Atromitos	26	6	10	10	16	30	22
Ol. Volos	26	7	3	16	25	48	17
Aigaleo	26	7	2	17	24	42	16
Kalamata	26	5	6	15	16	46	16
Larissa	26	4	7	15	19	38	15
Kavala	26	5	3	18	20	41	13

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
RWD Molenbeek	**33**	**21**	**10**	**2**	**79**	**32**	**52**
Anderlecht	33	18	11	4	61	18	47
FC Bruges	33	16	10	7	61	28	42
Antwerp	33	17	8	8	60	28	42
Standard	33	18	6	9	57	33	42
Beerschot	32	16	7	9	48	31	39
Lierse	33	17	5	11	46	41	39
Lokeren	33	13	10	10	45	44	36
CS Bruges	33	11	11	11	35	38	33
Waregem	32	10	10	12	33	38	30
Beveren-Waas	32	9	11	12	26	32	29
Liege	33	11	7	15	40	47	29
SC Charleroi	33	9	11	13	32	51	29
Berchem	32	7	13	12	28	37	27
Beringen	33	9	9	15	42	54	27
Mechelen	33	8	9	16	22	37	25
Ostende	33	7	11	15	49	68	25
Diest	33	8	7	18	27	58	23
Ol. Montignies	33	6	11	16	28	64	23
Winterslag	33	3	11	19	25	64	17

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Jeunesse	**21**	**14**	**3**	**4**	**59**	**23**	**31**
Avenir	21	13	3	5	43	29	29
Union	21	9	7	5	27	24	25
Red Boys	21	9	5	7	36	33	23
Rümelingen	21	7	8	6	32	30	22
Alliance	21	6	9	6	36	33	21
Etzella	21	8	5	8	32	31	21
Aris	21	6	7	8	36	41	19
Progres	21	7	4	10	31	42	18
Fola	21	7	2	12	36	52	16
RS Marl-Belair	21	4	6	11	20	38	14
Spora	21	4	5	12	22	44	13

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	**28**	**20**	**6**	**2**	**58**	**10**	**46**
Sporting	28	17	8	3	58	22	42
Porto	28	17	6	5	53	28	40
Boavista	28	15	6	7	55	29	36
Vit. Guimaraes	28	15	6	7	60	34	36
Belenenses	28	12	6	10	40	38	30
Leixoes	28	10	9	9	29	31	29
Farense	28	12	3	13	39	47	27
Vit. Setubal	28	9	7	12	38	37	25
CUF Barreiro	28	8	9	11	33	37	25
Atletico	28	9	6	13	34	63	24
Uniao de Tomar	28	8	5	15	33	54	21
Academico	28	7	5	16	31	44	19
Oriental	28	5	9	14	20	48	19
Olhanense	28	5	5	18	36	60	15
Espinho	28	4	6	18	24	59	14

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slovan	**23**	**12**	**6**	**5**	**52**	**22**	**30**
Bohemians	23	11	6	6	37	21	28
Brno	23	11	6	6	35	28	28
Inter	22	13	1	8	46	30	27
Teplice	23	9	8	6	22	23	26
VSS Kosice	23	10	4	9	52	40	24
Trnava	23	9	6	8	26	28	24
Banik	23	8	7	8	25	26	23
Dukla	22	7	8	7	23	23	22
Slavia	23	8	5	10	32	36	21
Jablonec	23	8	3	12	21	31	19
Trinec	23	6	7	10	21	32	19
Sparta	23	7	5	11	32	44	19
Skoda	23	9	1	13	31	44	19
AC Nitra	23	9	1	13	25	38	19
Zilina	23	6	6	11	27	41	18

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV Eindhoven	**30**	**19**	**9**	**2**	**69**	**23**	**47**
Feyenoord	30	20	6	4	82	25	46
Ajax	30	20	5	5	71	29	45
Twente	30	16	7	7	52	28	39
AZ'67 Alkmaar	30	14	9	7	48	29	37
Telstar Velsen	30	9	13	8	35	38	31
Sparta Rotterdam	30	7	16	7	38	37	30
Amsterdam	30	10	9	11	45	41	29
Den Haag	30	7	15	8	31	35	29
Roda JC	30	9	9	12	41	53	27
MVV Maastricht	30	6	13	11	39	48	25
Utrecht	30	8	9	13	38	57	25
Go Ahead	30	7	10	13	26	51	24
Excelsior	30	7	10	13	29	45	24
De Graafschap	30	8	7	15	28	51	23
Wageningen	30	6	9	15	35	62	21
NAC Breda	30	5	9	16	29	57	19
Haarlem	30	5	9	16	31	65	19

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Akademik Sofia	**21**	**12**	**4**	**5**	**31**	**22**	**2**
Slavia Sofia	21	12	3	6	40	21	2
CSKA Sofia	21	11	5	5	36	22	2
Lok. Plovdiv	21	10	6	5	43	31	2
Levsky/Spartak	21	10	5	6	38	25	2
Dunav Russe	21	10	3	8	27	22	2
Thrakia Plovdiv	21	10	2	9	29	32	2
Sliven	21	6	8	7	27	30	2
Botev Vratza	21	6	7	8	32	35	1
Lok Sofia	21	6	7	8	30	33	1
Pirin B'goevgrad	21	8	2	11	26	35	1
Spartak Pleven	21	7	4	10	24	34	1
Etar Trinovo	21	6	5	10	28	32	1
Minjor Pernik	21	7	3	11	24	33	1
T'erno-more V.	21	5	7	9	22	34	1
Jantra Gabrovo	21	4	5	12	17	33	1

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Juventus	**26**	**15**	**7**	**4**	**37**	**16**	**3**
Napoli	26	11	12	3	43	19	3
Torino	26	11	10	5	36	26	3
Lazio	26	12	8	6	31	23	3
Roma	26	12	8	6	20	13	3
Milan	26	9	11	6	30	21	2
Bologna	26	9	11	6	32	28	2
Inter	26	9	9	8	21	19	2
Fiorentina	26	6	13	7	21	21	2
Cagliari	26	6	11	9	19	26	2
Cesena	26	5	13	8	18	26	2
Ascoli	26	5	10	11	12	25	2
Sampdoria	26	3	14	9	16	30	2
Vicenza	26	5	9	12	18	27	1
Ternana	26	4	11	11	17	32	1
Varese	26	3	9	14	18	37	1

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Bor. Moen'bach	**27**	**15**	**8**	**4**	**63**	**32**	**3**
Hertha BSC	27	14	6	7	47	33	3
Eintracht Frankf.	26	13	7	6	71	34	3
Cologne	26	14	5	7	57	37	3
Hamburger SV	27	14	5	8	44	30	3
Kickers O'bach	27	15	3	9	61	48	3
Eintr. Brunswick	27	13	5	9	47	33	3
Fortuna Düsseld.	27	11	8	8	46	44	3
Schalke 04	26	12	5	9	40	29	3
VfL Bochum	26	12	4	10	38	34	3
Bayern Munich	27	10	5	12	42	51	2
Rot-Weiss Essen	27	8	9	10	44	54	2
MSV Duisburg	27	10	5	12	49	60	2
Kaiserslautern	27	11	2	14	46	46	2
Werder Bremen	27	7	5	15	34	57	1
VfB Stuttgart	27	7	5	15	37	61	1
Ten. Bor. Berlin	27	5	4	18	34	71	1
Wuppertaler SV	27	2	5	20	22	68	1

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vanlöse IF	**4**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**6**	**1**	**8**
Köge BK	4	3	0	1	11	5	6
Freja Randers	4	2	2	0	6	2	6
Esbjerg BK	4	2	2	0	8	4	6
Holbaek BK	4	2	2	0	4	1	6
B 1901 Nyköbing	4	1	3	0	4	3	5
KB Kopenhagen	4	2	0	2	8	6	4
B 1893 Kopenh.	4	1	1	2	3	4	3
Naestved IF	4	1	1	2	5	10	3
Fremad Amager	4	1	1	2	3	8	3
Vejle BK	3	1	0	2	4	4	2
Aalborg BK	3	1	0	2	3	3	2
Slagelse BIK	3	1	0	2	2	5	2
B 1909 Odense	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
B 1903 K'hagen	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
Frem K'hagen	3	0	0	3	2	7	0

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ujpest Dozsa	**20**	**17**	**2**	**1**	**55**	**19**	**36**
Honved	21	14	6	1	42	13	34
Ferencvaros	20	9	8	3	37	19	26
Csepel	20	9	4	7	26	20	22
Videoton	21	7	8	6	23	28	22
Diosgyör	21	6	8	7	24	28	20
Zalaegerszeg	21	8	3	10	19	24	19
Raba ETO	21	8	2	11	31	34	18
Tatabanya	20	6	5	9	17	21	17
Vasas	20	7	3	10	29	39	17
Pecs	21	5	7	9	21	31	17
Salgotarjan	21	6	5	10	24	35	17
MTK/VM	20	5	6	9	23	31	16
Bekescsaba	21	4	6	11	20	30	14
Haladas	20	5	3	12	18	37	13

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hajduk	**23**	**13**	**5**	**5**	**34**	**20**	**31**
Vojvodina	23	11	8	4	35	21	30
Red Star	23	11	6	6	41	26	28
Velez	23	11	4	8	42	20	26
Dinamo	23	8	10	5	26	21	26
Sloboda	23	9	8	6	28	29	26
Radnicki Nis	23	8	9	6	24	24	25
Zeljeznicar	23	8	6	9	34	32	22
Partizan	23	8	6	9	32	20	22
Kragujevac	23	7	8	8	17	25	22
OFK Belgrade	23	8	5	10	31	29	21
Celik	23	8	5	10	23	30	21
Olimpija	23	5	10	8	27	35	20
Vardar	23	4	12	7	20	28	20
Rijeka	23	5	10	8	19	28	20
Bor	23	5	9	9	24	34	19
Sarajevo	23	4	10	9	22	31	18
Proleter	23	5	7	11	19	35	17

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	**32**	**24**	**6**	**2**	**84**	**31**	**54**
Celtic	32	20	5	7	79	37	45
Hibernian	32	18	9	5	64	34	45
Dundee United	32	17	7	8	67	41	41
Aberdeen	31	14	8	9	57	39	36
Dundee	32	14	6	12	44	41	34
Hearts	32	10	13	9	43	49	33
Ayr United	32	13	7	12	46	58	33
St. Johnstone	32	10	11	11	39	43	31
Motherwell	31	13	4	14	46	50	30
Kilmarnock	32	8	14	10	48	62	30
Partick Thistle	32	10	8	14	46	60	28
Airdrieonians	31	9	8	14	35	51	26
Dumbarton	32	7	10	15	41	49	24
Dunfermline	31	7	9	15	41	55	23
Clyde	32	7	7	18	37	57	21
Morton	32	6	9	17	30	60	21
Arbroath	32	5	7	20	32	62	17

West Ham United versus Stoke City at Upton Park, with Alan Taylor in the thick of things for the home side. The match ended 0-0.

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Derby	**40**	**21**	**9**	**10**	**67**	**49**	**51**
Liverpool	40	19	11	10	57	37	49
Everton	40	16	17	7	53	38	49
Ipswich	39	22	4	13	60	39	48
Stoke	40	17	13	10	64	48	47
Middlesbrough	40	16	12	12	51	40	44
Burnley	40	17	10	13	68	65	44
Sheffield United	38	16	11	11	50	48	43
Leeds	39	15	12	12	52	43	42
Manchester City	39	17	8	14	50	52	42
Queen's PR	40	16	9	15	52	51	41
Wolverhampton	40	14	10	16	56	52	38
West Ham	39	12	13	14	55	53	37
Birmingham	39	14	8	17	53	56	36
Newcastle	39	14	8	17	55	69	36
Leicester	40	12	11	17	46	56	35
Coventry	40	10	15	15	49	62	35
Arsenal	38	12	10	16	45	45	34
Chelsea	39	9	13	17	40	68	31
Tottenham	39	11	8	20	46	60	30
Luton	40	10	10	20	42	63	30
Carlisle	40	11	4	25	42	59	26

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	B'n's Pts	Pts
St. Etienne	**31**	**19**	**5**	**7**	**53**	**29**	**4**	**47**
Marseille	32	16	8	8	56	33	4	44
Bastia	31	12	10	9	43	38	4	38
Nimes	32	13	9	10	47	42	3	38
Reims	32	15	4	13	52	49	3	37
Nantes	31	13	10	8	38	33	0	36
Lyon	32	11	11	10	49	47	3	36
Monaco	32	16	3	13	57	57	1	36
Lens	32	13	7	12	50	52	3	36
Strasbourg	32	13	7	12	38	45	3	36
Bordeaux	31	13	7	11	46	41	2	35
Lille	32	13	4	15	45	43	3	33
St. Germain	32	11	9	12	51	58	1	32
Metz	31	10	8	13	37	47	3	31
Rennes	32	10	9	13	33	40	2	31
Troyes	32	10	9	13	36	43	2	31
Nice	31	11	7	13	44	51	1	30
Sochaux	32	8	10	14	33	38	2	28
Red Star	32	7	9	16	37	45	3	26
Angers	32	6	8	18	37	51	4	24

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zürich	**16**	**12**	**1**	**3**	**43**	**10**	**25**
Winterthur	17	9	5	3	31	19	23
Sion	17	8	6	3	29	14	22
Grasshoppers	17	7	6	4	32	31	20
Servette	16	8	3	5	27	20	19
Young Boys	16	6	6	4	36	26	18
Basel	17	6	6	5	31	24	18
Lausanne	17	5	8	4	24	20	18
St. Gallen	16	5	5	6	27	37	15
Neuchâtel Xam.	17	5	4	8	27	31	14
Lugano	16	5	3	8	22	29	13
Chênois	17	3	5	9	17	41	11
Luzern	15	2	3	10	16	38	7
Vevey	16	1	5	10	19	41	7

RUMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dl'mo Bucharest	**24**	**17**	**3**	**4**	**45**	**20**	**37**
AS Armata	24	13	2	9	33	30	28
Uni. Craiova	24	9	8	7	35	21	26
CSM Resita	24	11	4	9	35	30	26
Ol. Satu Mare	24	10	6	8	23	20	26
Steaua Bukarest	24	11	3	10	40	30	25
Poli. Timisoara	24	11	3	10	21	26	25
UT Arad	24	10	4	10	28	28	24
Jiul Petroseni	24	9	5	10	30	23	23
Sportul Bukarest	24	10	3	11	28	31	23
CFR Cluj	24	7	9	8	17	20	23
Constanta	24	8	6	10	22	28	22
Uni. Cluj	24	7	8	9	17	28	22
Steagul rosu	24	8	5	11	30	21	21
Arges	24	9	3	12	32	31	21
Chim. Rimnicu	24	6	9	9	23	39	21
Poli. Iassi	24	9	2	13	25	39	20
Galati	24	7	5	12	15	35	19

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SW Innsbruck	**25**	**17**	**2**	**6**	**53**	**23**	**36**
Rapid	25	13	5	7	44	24	31
VOeEST Linz	25	10	8	7	36	25	28
Austria/WAC	25	10	7	8	42	34	27
A. Salzburg	25	9	7	9	29	40	25
Sturm Graz	25	8	6	11	30	35	22
Eisenstadt	25	7	7	11	27	44	21
Admira/Wacker	25	7	6	12	33	41	20
Linzer ASK	25	7	6	12	30	41	20
A. Klagenfurt	25	9	2	14	27	44	20

Classified results

EUROPE-SOUTH AMERICA CUP
(1st leg in Buenos Aires)

INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) (1) 1 (Balbuena)
ATLETICO MADRID (Spain) (0) 0

Independiente: Perez, Commisso, Lopez, Sá, Pavoni, Galván, Rodriguez (Semenewicz), Bochini, Balbuena, Rojas, Bertoni (Giribert).
Atletico Madrid: Reina, Melo, Heredia, Benegas, Capón, Eusebio, Alberto (Bacerra), Adelardo, Irureta, Garate, Ayala. (Referee: Charles Corver, Holland).

LIBERTADORES CUP
(South American Club Championship)
Group 1
February 28

ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) (1) 1 (Arias)
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Argentina) (0) 1 (Ribecca)

Rosario Central: Biasutto, Van Tuyne, Arias, D. Killer, M. Killer, Almar, Solari, Zavagno, Bóveda, Cabral, Kempes.
Newell's Old Boys: Carrascosa, Rebottaro, Pavoni, Capurro, Ortiz, Ribecca, Berta, Zanabria, Salas, Oberti (Picerni), Rocha (Giachello).

CERRO PORTENO (Paraguay) (0) 0
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (0) 0

Cerro Porteno: Spesset, P. Rodriguez, Enciso, Gavilán, Brizzola, Osorio, Jara Seguir, Talavera, Barcino, Berón, Gimenez.
Olimpia: Almeida, Flaminio Sosa, Bordon, Alcides Sosa, Correa, Torres, Kiese, Benitez, Aquino, Inafran, O. Jimenez.

March 7

OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (0) 2 (Aquino, Rebottaro)
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Argentina) (0) 0

Olimpia: Almeida, F. Sosa, Bordon, A. Sosa, Correa, Torres (Espinoza), Benitez, Kiesse, Aquino, Inafran, Lazurini.
Newell's OB: Carrasco, Rebottaro, Pavoni, Capurro, Ortiz, Ribecca, (Giachello), Berta (Picerni), Zanabria, Salas, Oberti, Rocha. (Referee: René Torres, Ecuador).

● *Continued from page 27*

Russia: Rudakov; Troshkin, Fomenko, Rashko, Matvienko, Konkov (Barjak), Muntian, Veremyev, Kolotov, Onishenko (Fyodorov), Blokhin.
Turkey: Sabri; Alpaslan, Zafer, Ismail, Kemal, Siya, Rashit, Metin, Engin, Ali-Kemal, Cemil.

ITALY 10, USA 0

ITALY had one of their easiest international successes of all time when they beat the touring United States team 10-0 in Rome.

Poland had earlier beaten the Americans by seven clear goals and since they are the Italians next opponents in the European Championship it gave them a chance at least to compare goal-scoring performances.

After missing a chance in the first minute Luciano Graziani made up for it by scoring three and the other goals came at regular intervals too, from Francesco Rocca (2), Francesco Cordova, Giorgio Chinaglia (2) and Benno Savoldi (2) one of five substitutes used by the Italians.

Outstanding for the winners was Chinaglia who laid on several chances for his colleagues. In the Italian goal Dino Zoff had a quiet time and only Dan Counce worried him but then shot wide at the vital moment!

Italy: Zoff (Albertosi); Gentile, Bellugi (Morini, (F.), Facchetti (Scirea), Rocca, Cordova, Morini (G.), Capello (Pecci), Graziani, Chinaglia, Bettega (Savoldi).
USA: Rigby; Hamlyn (Dunling), Roth, Counce, Smith, Barto, D'Errico (Rote), Robotaff, McBride, Rymarzyk, Scurti (Skotarek).

ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) (0) 2 (Cabral, Pascuttini)
CERRO PORTENO (Paraguay) (0) 1 (Beron)

Rosario Central: Biasutto, Van Tuyne, Pascuttini, D. Killer, M. Killer, Almar, Solari, Zavagno, Bóveda, Cabral, Carril.
Cerro Porteno: Spesset, P. Rodriguez, Enciso (Bordon), Gavilan, Frizzola, Osorio, Jara Saguier, Talavera, Gonzalez (Gimenez), Beron, Barreiro.

March 14

ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) (0) 1 (Zavagno)
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (0) 1 (Kiese)

Rosario Central: Biasutto, Gonzalez, Pascuttini, D. Killer, M. Killer, Almar, Solari (Mancinelli), Zavagno, Boveda, Cabral, Carril.
Olimpia: Almeida, Bordon, A. Sosa, F. Sosa, Correa, Torres, Benitez, Kiesse, Paniagua (Espinoza), Inafran, Aquino. (Referee: Carlos Robles, Chile).

CERRO PORTENO (Paraguay) (0) 0
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Argentina) (0) 1 (Giachello)

Cerro Porteno: Spesset, Rodriguez, Enciso, Gavilan, Frizzola, Osorio, Jara Saguier, Talavera, Maris, Beron (Gimenez), Bertire.
Newell's OB: Carrasco, Rebottaro, Pavoni, Sperandio, Ortiz (Agueropolis), Picerni, Gallego, Zanabria, Salas (Rocha), Obberti, Giachello.

Group 2
February 23

THE STRONGEST (Bolivia) (3) 3 (Bastida 2, Farias)
JORGE WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) (1) 1

February 26

HUACHIPATO (Chile) (0) 0
UNION ESPANOLA (Chile) (0) 0

Huachipato: Mendy, F. Silva, Azócar, Riveros, Pinochet, M. Silva, Diaz, Salinas, Caceres, Sintas, Astudillo, (Godoy).
Union Espanola: Vallejos, Machuca, Berly, Soto, Arias, Inostroza, Palacios, Las Heras, Spedaletti, Abumada, Veliz.

March 5

J. WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) (0) 0
HUACHIPATO (Chile) (0) 0

Wilsterman: Bilbao, Del Liano, Aguad, Villalon, Cabrera Bucett, Martinez (Fortunato Rios), Vargas, Sanchez (Sosa), Cabrera Rivero, Joana, Da Costa.
Huachipato: Mendy, E. Silva, Rivero, Azócar, Pinochet, M. Silva, Diaz, Salinas, Caceres (Beira), Sintas, Astudillo (Godoy).

March 9

THE STRONGEST (Bolivia) (1) 1 (Farias)
HUACHIPATO (Chile) (0) 0

The Strongest: Angulo, Argarañaz, Robles, Iriondo, Fontana, Liendo, Ortiz, Bustida, Pariente, Farias. (Change: Revollo for Ortiz).
Huachipato: Mendy, F. Silva (Urrisola), Azócar, Rivero, Pinochet, Salinas (Neira), Diaz, M. Silva, Caceres, Sintas, Godoy.

March 12

THE STRONGEST (Bolivia) (0) 1 (Bastida)
UNION ESPANOLA (Chile) (1) 1 (Spedaletti)

The Strongest: Galarza, Angulo, Argarañaz, Robles, Iriondo, Fontana, Liendo, Ortiz (Revollo), Bustida, Pariente, Farias.
Union Espanola: Vallejos, Machuca, Berly, Arias, Soto, Inostroza, Gaete (Palacios), Trujillo (Hochman), Las Heras, Spedaletti, Veliz.

Group 3
February 23

CRUZEIRO (Brazil) (1) 3 (Palhinda 3)
VASCO DA GAMA (1) 2 (Pereira 2)

Cruzeiro: Raul, Nelinho, Darsi, Souza, Vanderlei, Piazza, Eduardo, Dirceu Lopes, Roberto Batata (Eli, Candido), Palhinha, Joãozinho.
Vasco da Gama: Andrada, Paulo Cesar, Miguel, Moises, Celso Alonso, Alcir, Zanata, Jair Pereira, Jorginho (Bil), Roberto, Luiz Carlos.

DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (0) 0
ATLETICO NACIONAL (Colombia) (0) 0

March 9

AT. NACIONAL (Colombia) (0) 1 (Londer
VASCO DA GAMA (Brazil) (0) 1 (Alcir)

Nacional: Navarro, Moncadan, Maurana, Campa Salgado, Alvarez (Gallego), Reinl, Dir, Tamayo Londero, Tortorielo (Santa).
Vasco da Gama: Andrada, Paulo Cesar (sent o 30m) Miguel, Moises, Odinete, Alcir, Adenil Luiz Carlos, Jair Pereira (Gilson), Roberto, Galdin (Jorginho).

DEP. CALI (Colombia) (1) 1 (Torres)
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) (0) 0

Cali: Zape, Contreras, Cardacci, Escobar, Cast (Umana), Gonzalez (Muñoz), Da Gracca, Cale Torres, Barroso, Barona.
Cruzeiro: Raul, Vanderlei, Darcy, Souza, Nelinh Dirceu Lopes, Ze Carlos (Baiano), Piazza, Edward Palinha (Candido), Joãozinho.

March 13

DEP. CALI (Colombia) (1) 2 (Baron; Calcedo pen.)
VASCO DA GAMA (Brazil) (1) 1 (Jair)
AT. NACIONAL (Colombia) (1) 1 (Reta
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) (2) 2 (Nelin Roberto)

Group 4
February 16

LIGA DEPORTIVA UNIVERSITARI (Ecuador) (1) 3 (Perez 2, Gomez)
NACIONAL (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Rhon)

February 23

LIGA DEPORTIVA UNIVERSITARI (Ecuador) 4
DEPORTIVO GALICIA (Venezuela) 2

February 26

NACIONAL (Ecuador) (0) 0
DEP. GALICIA (Venezuela) (0) 0

Nacional: Mendez, Perdomo, Sweet, Per Servando Lasso, C. Ron, Guerra, Garcia, Fe Lasso, Nieves, V. Ros.
Dep Galicia: Jimenez, Mota, Salomón, Cast Bellorini, Usche, Salinas, Gonzalez (Watf Tiao-Kele, Rivero, Estrada. (Referee: Mario Cance Chile).

March 2

NACIONAL (Ecuador) 5 (Nieves, Lasso Garces 2)
PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) 1

March 5

LIGA DEP. UNIVERSITARIA (Ecuad (1) 1 (Perez)
PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) (0) (Goubella)

March 9

NACIONAL (Ecuador) (1) 1 (Paz y Mi
LIGA DEP. UNIVERSITARIA (Ecuad (0) 1 (Perez) Att: 45,000.

Nacional: Mendez, Jare, Perez, Sweet, S. La Cabezas, C. Ron, Garcés, Nieves, F. Lasso, Pa Mino.
Liga Dep. Universitaria: Maesso, Guevara, Carlos, Maldonado, Moreno, J. C. Gomez, Ro Zubia, Polo Cabrera, J. J. Gomez, Tapia.

PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) (1) 1 (Ba (P))
DEP. GALICIA (Venezuela) (0) 1 (Rive pen.)

Portuguesa: Romero, Marin, Marcenaro, Marquina, Salas, Ivaldi, Mendoza, Lovizio Bassi, Bachini, Echenausi.
Dep. Galicia: Jimenez, David, Castro, W Bellorin, Usche, Alejo, Salinas, Estrada, T Kelne, Rivero. (Referee: D. Veiro, Argentina).

March 16

PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) (0) 1 (Nu pen.)
NACIONAL (Ecuador) (0) 0

Portuguesa: Romero, Marin, Marcenaro, Tava Marquina, Ivaldi, Lovizuto, Fassi, Bachini, Nu Echenausi.
Nacional: Mendez, Perdomo, Perez, Sw Escalante, C. Ron, Cabezas, F. Lasso, Villafu Garcés, Nieves.

DEP. GALICIA (Venezuela) (0) 0
LIGA DEP. UNIVERSITARIA (Ecuador) (1) 1 (Zubia)

Galicia: Jimenez, David, Castro, Salomon, Balloria, Usache, Tabarez, Alejo, Rivero, Watti, Estrada.
Liga Dep. Universitaria: Moesso, Guevara, De Carlos, Maldonado, Moreno, Sussman, Tovar, Zubia, Gomez, Perez, Polo Carrera.

Group 5
March 6

PENAROL (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Silva)
WANDERERS (Uruguay) (0) 0

Penarol: Corbo, Gonzalez, Garisto, Peruena, Zoryez, Gimenez (Yagunc), Garcia, Silva, Quevedo, Morena Pizzani.
Wanderers: Ortiz, Burgos, Tabarez, Berriel, Alvez, Martirena, Sierra (Duarte), Vasconcellos (Maletaler), Forlan, De los Santos, Olivera.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, FIRST LEG

Independiente (1) 1 (Balbuena)
Atletico Madrid (0) 0

Independiente: Perez; Commisso, Sa, Pavoni, Lopez, Rodriguez (Semenewicz), Galvan, Bochini, Balbuena, Rojas, Bertoni (Giribet).
Atletico: Reina; Melo, Heredia, Capon, Benegas, Adelardo, Eusebio, Irureta, Alberto (Becerra), Garate, Ayala.

EUROPEAN CUP, QUARTER FINAL, FIRST LEG

Bayern Munich (0) 2 (Hoeness, Torstensson)
Ararat Erevan (0) 0
Leeds United (2) 3 (Jordan, McQueen, Lorimer)
Anderlecht (0) 0
Ruch Chorzow (2) 3 (Maszczyk, Beninger, Bula pen.)
St Etienne (0) 2 (Larque, Triantafilos)
Barcelona (1) 2 (Maria Marinho, Clares)
Atvidaberg (0) 0

SECOND LEG

Atvidaberg (0) 0
Barcelona (1) 3 (Gallego, Asensi, Neeskens) played in Barcelona
St Etienne (1) 2 (Janvion, Herve Revelli pen.)
Ruch Chorzow (0) 0
Ararat Erevan (1) 1 (Andreassian)
Bayern Munich (0) 0
Anderlecht (0) 0
Leeds United (0) 1 (Bremner)

CUP WINNERS CUP, QUARTER-FINAL, FIRST LEG

Real Madrid (1) 2 (Santillana, Netzer pen.)
Red Star Belgrade (0) 0
PSV Eindhoven (0) 0
Benfica (0) 0
Malmo (0) 1 (Sjoberg)
Ferencvaros (1) 3 (Nyilasi, Magyar, Mate)
Bursaspor (0) 0
Dynamo Kiev (1) (1) (Onischenko)

SECOND LEG

Benfica (1) 1 (Humberto)
PSV Eindhoven (1) 2 (Willy Van der Kerkhof, Quaars)
Ferencvaros (0) 1 (Mate)
Malmo (1) 1 (Sjoberg)
Dynamo Kiev (0) 2 (Kolotov pen, Muntian)
Bursaspor (0) 0
Red Star Belgrade (1) 2 (Dzajic, Ognjen Petrovic pen.)
Real Madrid (0) 0 (Red Star won on penalties)

UEFA CUP, QUARTER-FINAL, FIRST LEG

Juventus (2) 2 (Capello, Viola)
Hamburg (0) 0
Cologne (1) 5 (Flohe 2, 1 pen, Muller 3)
FC Amsterdam (1) 1 (Voisser)
Velez Mostar (0) 1 (Kvesic)
Twente (0) 0
Banik Ostrava (0) 0
Borussia Moenchengladbach (0) 1 (Heynckes)

SECOND LEG

Hamburg (0) 0
Juventus (0) 0
Borussia Moenchengladbach (1) 3 (Micka o.g., Heynckes, Vogts)
Banik Ostrava (0) 1 (Hudecek)
FC Amsterdam (0) 2 (Jansen 2)
Cologne (2) 3 (Strack, Muller, Lohr)
Twente (1) 2 ((Zuidema, Overweg)
Velez Mostar (0) 0

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FRANCE

	MONACO	NIMES	NICE	ANGERS	LENS	RED STAR	RENNES	METZ	PARIS SG	SOCHAUX	TROYES	ST ETIENNE	LYON	RHEIMS	MARSEILLE	STRASBOURG	BORDEAUX	NANTES	LILLE	BASTIA
MONACO	—	3-3	3-2	1-0		4-3	2-0	1-2	3-0	3-1	3-1	3-1	3-1	2-3	0-2	1-0		1-3	1-0	1-0
NIMES		—	2-1	4-0	3-1	3-0	0-0	2-0		1-0		0-0	1-2	2-0	3-1	6-0	2-1	0-2	2-1	3-3
NICE	2-3	2-0	—		2-1	2-1	4-1	1-0	4-2	5-1	2-1	1-1	2-2		1-3	2-1	0-0		2-1	2-1
ANGERS		2-0	1-3	—	1-2	1-1	1-2		3-1	1-1	1-1	0-1	0-2	1-2	1-2	5-1	2-2	0-0	4-1	3-0
LENS	6-3		4-2	0-0	—	0-0	1-0	3-1	3-2	3-2	1-0		4-0	1-0	2-2	0-1	3-0	2-2	1-0	3-3
RED STAR	3-0	0-1	4-1	2-5		—	0-2	1-1		0-1	2-1	1-2	4-0	2-1	0-0	0-1	1-2	4-4	2-1	0-0
RENNES	1-1	2-1	0-0	2-0	1-0	0-2	—	0-0	2-1		1-1	3-1	0-0		1-0	5-1	1-1	0-0	3-0	1-1
METZ	1-0	3-0		2-0	2-1	2-1		—	1-3	0-1	1-1	3-0	3-1	1-1	1-0	2-1	3-3	4-0		0-2
PARIS SG	0-1	1-1	2-1	3-2	3-1	2-0	2-1	2-2	—		0-0		2-2	3-0	1-1		0-1	2-3	0-0	1-1
SOCHAUX	4-2	2-0	1-1		0-1	0-0	2-1	1-1	0-1	—	0-1	1-1		1-0	1-1	0-0	5-2	0-1	1-1	3-0
TROYES		1-1	3-1	4-0	0-1	2-1	2-0	4-1	1-3	2-2	—	1-0	0-0	2-0	1-2	2-0		0-0	0-1	2-1
ST ETIENNE	3-2	4-0		2-0	3-2	2-0	3-0	5-0	3-2	1-0		—	1-0	3-1		2-1	2-0	2-0	4-1	
LYON	1-3	2-2	0-0	0-0	5-1		4-1	2-0	4-4	1-0	2-1	1-0	—	3-3	0-1		1-0	1-1		8-1
RHEIMS	2-3	2-1	1-1		5-1	1-1	2-1		6-1	2-1	3-0	0-2		—	4-3	2-0	2-1	2-1	4-3	0-1
MARSEILLE	4-1	1-1	4-1	3-1	4-0		3-1	1-0	4-2	2-0	0-0	1-2	0-1	1-1	—	1-1	3-0		2-0	3-1
STRASBOURG	2-2	1-1	2-1	1-0	2-1	1-1		3-0	2-1	1-1	1-0	0-0	2-0	3-0		—	1-0	2-0	3-0	
BORDEAUX	0-0		2-0	1-1	2-0	2-1	1-0	3-2	1-2	2-1	6-0	1-0	1-1	2-0		4-1	—	2-1	4-2	
NANTES	4-2	0-1	2-0	1-0		0-0	1-1		0-0	1-0		2-1	3-1	0-1	2-0	3-1		—	2-0	0-0
LILLE	2-0	1-1		1-5	1-1	1-0		4-0	5-0	4-0	2-0	2-0	1-2	2-1	1-0	2-1	2-0	3-0	—	
BASTIA	1-0	4-0	2-0	3-0	0-0		3-0	0-0	0-2		5-1	1-1	2-0	0-1	2-2	2-1	1-0	1-0	2-0	—

SPAIN

	ESPANOL	CELTA	LAS PALMAS	BETIS	HERCULES	MURCIA	VALENCIA	REAL MADRID	GIJON	ZARAGOZZA	MALAGA	ATH BILBAO	REAL SOCIEDAD	BARCELONA	SALAMANCA	ELCHE	ATH MADRID	GRENADA
ESPANOL	—	2-0		1-0	2-1	2-1		0-2	0-0	2-1	1-2	4-3	0-1	5-2		2-1	1-0	1-0
CELTA	2-0	—	1-0	1-1		1-1	1-1	3-3		2-0	2-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	2-0	1-2		3-0
LAS PALMAS	2-0		—	3-1		5-0	1-1	1-2	1-0	2-0	1-0	2-0		1-0	1-1	1-1		4-0
BETIS	0-0	1-0	1-0	—	3-0	1-0		1-3	2-0	1-0		2-1	3-0	1-0		1-1	2-1	1-1
HERCULES		0-0	3-1		—	2-2	2-1	1-1	2-0	0-1	1-1	0-0	1-1	0-0	2-1			0-1
MURCIA	0-0	1-0	1-1	0-0	1-1	—	1-5	2-2			2-0	2-4	2-2		2-1	2-0	3-1	0-0
VALENCIA	1-1			3-1	1-0		—	1-2	2-0	0-0	2-0	3-0	1-0	1-0	2-2	0-0	1-1	
REAL MADRID	5-0	4-1	4-1	3-2	2-1		3-2	—	0-0	1-0			1-1	1-0	1-0	5-1	1-0	1-0
GIJON		1-1	0-0		2-1	1-0	2-1		—	2-0	1-1	1-1	0-2	0-1	2-1		2-2	5-1
ZARAGOZZA	1-0	4-2	3-1	2-1	2-2	5-0	3-1		3-1	—	1-0	1-0	1-1		1-1		3-1	4-1
MALAGA	2-0		1-0	1-0	0-1		1-0	1-3	3-1		—	2-0	2-0	3-2	1-1	1-0	0-0	
ATH BILBAO	1-0	3-0	2-1	0-1	2-2		1-1	1-0	1-4		3-1	—		1-0	0-0	3-0	3-0	
REAL SOCIEDAD		1-1	2-0	2-0	2-2	2-0	1-0		1-1		2-0	3-0	—	3-2	1-1	0-0	1-1	2-0
BARCELONA	4-1	4-0	3-2		0-0	3-1	5-2		1-1	2-2	5-0		2-0	—	3-1		1-0	2-1
SALAMANCA	2-0			2-0	0-1	3-0	0-1	0-0	1-0	3-3	1-0	0-0		1-0	—	2-0	1-1	
ELCHE	2-4	2-0	1-1	2-0	0-1	3-0		1-0	1-0	1-1			3-0	1-0	0-1	—	1-0	2-1
ATH MADRID		0-0	4-0		2-0	1-0	5-2	1-1	2-2	4-0	2-1	2-0		3-3		3-0	—	0-0
GRENADA	0-0	1-0	1-1	2-0		2-1	2-1	3-3		3-0	1-0	1-1	1-0		1-1	5-0		—

March 9

UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (0) 1 (Ramirez)
UNION HUARAL (Peru) (0) 1 (Luces)

Universitario: Caceres, Soria, Cuellar, Chumpitaz, Diaz, Techera, Aparicio, Rojas (Echeandia), Ramirez, Ore, Oblitas.

Union Huaral: Acazuso, Campana, Caceres, Pau, Escobar, Estrada, Ruiz, Espinoza (Risco), Leturia (Wichi), Luces, Gutierrez. (Referee: Enrique Labo, Peru).

March 11

PENAROL (Uruguay) (2) 5 (Morena 4, Quevedo)
UNION HUARAL (Peru) (1) 2 (Ruiz, (Luces)

Penarol: Corbo, Gonzalez, Garisto, Peruena, Zoyez, Acosta, Gimenez (Unanue), Silva, Quevedo, Morena, Yaguno.

Union Huaral: Acazuzo, Campana, Pau, Caceres, Escobar, Estrada, Ruiz, Spinoza (Cardenas), Leturia (Wuchi), Luces, Gutierrez. (Sent off: Pau 39m., Escobar 87m.).

March 14

WANDERERS (Uruguay) (3) 4 (Santos 2, Sierra 2)
UNION HUARAL (Peru) (0) 0

Wanderers: Ortiz, Burgos, Tabarés, Berriel, Alvarez, Martirena, Sierra, Mulhathaler, Forlan, Santos, Olivera.

Union Huaral: Acazuzo, Campana, Caceres, Cardenas, E. Ruiz, Estrada, P. Ruiz, Espinoza, Luces, Sachi, Gutierrez.

March 18

WANDERERS (Uruguay) (0) 0
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (0) 2 (Techera, Ramirez)

Wanderers: Ortiz, Tabares, Berriel, Burgos, Alves, Martirena, Sierra, Mulhalthaler, Forlan, De los Santos, Olivera.

Universitario: Caceres, Soria, Cuellar, Chumpitaz, Trigueros, Rojas, Techera, Aparicio, Chirinos, Ramirez, Oblitas.

LIBERTADORES CUP STANDINGS

Group 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosario Central (Arg)	3	1	2	—	4	3	4
Olimpia (Parag)	3	1	2	—	3	1	4
Newell's OB (Arg)	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Cerro Porteno (Parag)	3	—	1	2	1	3	1
Group 2							
The Strongest (Boliv)	3	2	1	—	5	2	5
Huachipato (Chile)	3	—	2	1	—	1	2
Union Espanola (Chile)	2	—	2	—	1	1	2
J. Wilstermann (Boliv)	2	—	1	1	1	3	1
Group 3							
Dep. Cali (Colomb)	3	2	1	—	3	1	5
Cruzeiro (Braz)	3	2	—	1	5	4	4
Nacional (Colomb)	3	—	2	1	2	3	2
Vasco da Gama (Braz)	3	—	1	2	4	6	1
Group 4							
Liga Dep. Universitaria (Ec)	5	3	2	—	11	6	8
Portuguesa (Ven)	5	1	3	1	4	7	5
Nacional (Ecuad)	5	1	2	2	8	7	4
Dep. Galicia (Ven)	5	—	3	2	3	6	3
Group 5							
Penarol (Urug)	2	2	—	—	6	2	4
Universitario (Peru)	2	1	1	—	3	1	3
Wanderers (Urug)	3	1	—	2	4	3	2
Union Huaral (Peru)	3	—	1	2	3	10	1

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Magdeburg	18	13	3	2	43	21	29
Carl Zeiss Jena	18	13	3	2	31	13	29
Dynamo Dresden	18	8	5	5	29	25	21
Stahl Riesa	18	8	4	6	25	26	20
Berliner Dynamo	18	5	8	5	28	24	18
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	18	7	3	8	26	24	17
S'ring Zwickau	18	6	5	7	25	23	17
Chemie Halle	18	4	9	5	27	26	17
Karl-Marx-Stadt	18	5	6	7	21	29	16
Wismut Aue	18	5	6	7	17	28	16
Vorwärts Frankf.	18	4	7	7	28	27	15
Lok. Leipzig	18	6	3	9	25	31	15
Hansa Rostock	18	5	3	10	18	25	13
Vorw. Stralsund	18	3	3	12	13	34	9

BOB LATCHFORD Everton

World SOCCER

HUACHIPATO of Chile